



THE  
HISTORY OF FAIRFIELD

FAIRFIELD COUNTY, CONNECTICUT

*FROM 1700 TO 1800*

BY  
MRS. ELIZABETH HUBBELL SCHENCK

VOL. II

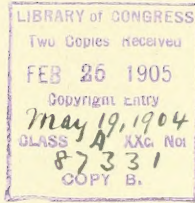
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## PREFACE

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In presenting the second volume of the History of Fairfield to the public the author has labored under many disadvantages in delay from ill-health for four or five years after the publication of the first volume. The closely-written State records having proved too severe a strain upon the eyes, the historian has hitherto largely depended upon the published records by the late State librarian, Mr. Charles J. Hoadley.

It is not out of place here to impress upon the Legislature of Connecticut the necessity of yearly setting aside a liberal sum of money for the publication and preservation of the Connecticut State records, which possess for the historian and the genealogist civil, military and ecclesiastical documents and records of inestimable value.

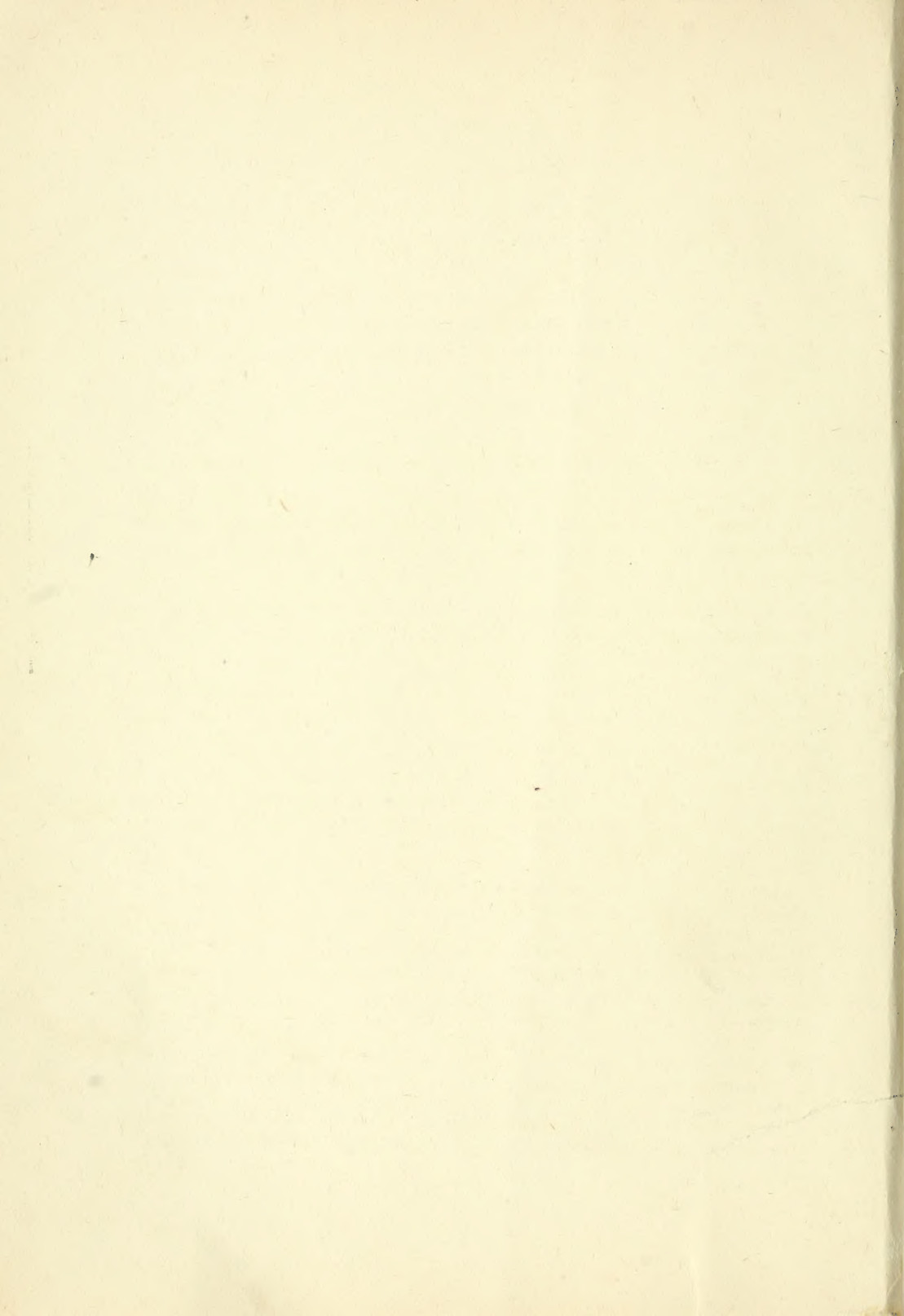
The town, probate and parish records of Fairfield, now well worn and faded, ought to be published without delay; a work by which the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Colonial Dames, with their earnest zeal for the preservation of valuable relics and the recorded deeds of our ancestors, would add lustre to their many praiseworthy acts of patriotism.

Having had for many years a copy of the first extant parish records of Christ Church, Fairfield, the author has thought wise to add them to this volume, that many who frequently apply to her for genealogical family records may themselves be able to trace them out. The parish records of Green's Farms, Stratfield, Greenfield Hill, Northfield, Mill Plain and Southport, which follow those of Fairfield, are most interesting and valuable.

In recording the names of the military officers of Fairfield and of its several parishes the reader is requested to bear in mind that the men who composed the army were as worthy of honor as the officers who led them, for they were among the soldiers of the army who won the hard fought battles which made the United States a free and independent country.

It is with deep regret that the author feels obliged with this volume to end her work of compiling the History of Fairfield; as, with advancing years, the labor of such an undertaking is too great a strain upon her strength. The years which follow she leaves to some other pen to record and publish.





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# HISTORY OF FAIRFIELD

## CHAPTER VII

1700—1710

### WAR WITH THE FRENCH AND INDIANS

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1700. THE dawn of the eighteenth century was pregnant with great events for the American colonies. The struggle for political and religious

liberty, which had made rapid progress within the last decades of the past century, now breathed a spirit of bolder resolution. Out of the dreams and ambitions of the past, the light of intelligence was framing for the American people a republic, which was destined to become the greatest nation of the world. With such wisdom, patient endurance and conscientious zeal had the attainment of this end been conducted by the General Court and Council of Connecticut, that already they had begun to realize the day was not far distant when this republic should be firmly established. In no town was this aim more zealously pursued than in Fairfield; and, alas, no town was destined to suffer more in consequence.

Capt. Nathan Gold, who at this time was an assistant of the General Court, was made judge of the Fairfield County Court, and Samuel Squire and Nathaniel Burr deputies. Capt. Jonathan Selleck was made surveyor of Fairfield County. Free grammar schools were ordered to be kept in the four counties of Hartford, New Haven, New London and Fairfield. Every town of seventy families was taxed towards the support of a common school, at the rate of forty shillings upon every thousand pounds. In case any town neglected this order this tax was to be paid to the public treasury.\*

Active measures were being carried on in Fairfield towards the establishment of a college within the colony. In 1698 ten of the leading members in Connecticut were appointed to "stand as trustees to found, erect and govern a college," of which the Rev. Joseph Webb of Fairfield was one. These gentlemen met at New Haven about this time and formed themselves into a society of eleven ministers and a rector to found a college. Each minister present laid upon a table several books, which they in words "donated, for the founding of a college in this colony." Forty volumes were given, which were intrusted to the care of Mr. Russell of Branford. Donations of other books and money followed, so that the trustees were greatly encouraged with the hope that they would soon have a college for the education of young men nearer home than Cambridge College. Application was at once made to the General Assembly for a charter which should make legal this undertaking. The Hon. James Fitch of Norwich "donated sixteen hundred acres of land in Killingly, & all the glass & nails which should be necessary to build a college house & hall."†

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1689-1706, p. 331.

† Trumbull's Hist. Conn., Vol. I., page 500.

1701. The following October the General Assembly granted these gentlemen "full liberty, right & privilege to erect, form, order, establish & improve" all suitable ways and means to maintain such a collegiate school. The trustees were not to exceed eleven, and not less than seven in number. They were to be above forty years of age, and chosen from the established or Congregational Church of the colony. An annual tax of one hundred and twenty pounds was granted out of the public treasury towards the support of this college. The trustees met in November at Saybrook and chose the Rev. Abraham Pierson of Killingworth rector of the college. They also fixed upon Saybrook as the most convenient place to locate the institution for the time being; but until the rector could remove thither, it was agreed that the scholars should be instructed at or near Killingworth. The library was removed from Branford to his house. Various attempts were made to induce Mr. Pierson to remove to Saybrook, but his people were wholly unwilling that he should leave them, and in consequence the students were kept at Killingworth during his life. The first commencement was held at Saybrook September 13. 1702. The use of a house and land was given by Mr. Nathaniel Lynde at Saybrook, while the college should continue there. The following year, 1703, a contribution was made throughout the colony towards erecting a college.\*

Captain Nathan Gold was made an Assistant of the General Assembly, and Mr. Peter Burr and Lieutenant James Bennet deputies. Mr. Peter Burr was chosen Speaker of the House.

An act was passed by which the General Assembly, hitherto held at Hartford, should be held in May at Hartford, and in October at New Haven.†

The western boundary line of Fairfield Village was fixed, and the name changed to that of Stratfield‡. It was given this name from being formed out of a part of the east parish of Fairfield and of the west parish of Stratford, taking a part of the former and latter names to form the new parish of Stratfield.‡

A copy of the new commission for Justices of the Peace in each county was ordered to be sent to the several towns in colony.

The Rev. Mr. Webb of Fairfield and the Rev. Charles Chauncey of

\* Trumbull's Hist. Conn., Vol. I., p. 501-502. Col. Rec. Conn., 1689-1706, p. 363.

† Col. Rec. Conn., 1689-1706, p. 343.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., 1689-1706, pp. 122, 357.



Stratfield received the thanks of the General Assembly for preaching election sermons.

In a journal left by the Rev. Mr. Webb, he relates that on the 23d day of May, 1700, about three o'clock in the afternoon, "a prodigious tempest of wind, thunder, rain and hail, occurred; the hail stones were as large as hen's eggs, houses were unroofed, the rain fell in *such abundance* that it was driven by the wind under the eaves & through the chimneys & roofs into the houses; blew down fences & overturned & destroyed twenty barns. The full force of the wind of this tornado, and the damage it did, lasted but three minutes, but the storm continued much longer."

1702. King William died at Hampton Court on the 8th of March, and his wife, Queen Anne, was at once proclaimed Queen of England, and crowned in Westminster Abbey on the 23d of April.

Captain Nathan Gold was chosen an Assistant and Lieutenant James Bennet and Mr. Samuel Squire deputies to the General Assembly.

By an act of the Assembly every seaport town was ordered to have a house set apart for smallpox patients, and no captain of a vessel was from this time allowed to enter within a half mile of any harbor without license from the Governor, Commander-in-Chief or from two Justices of the Peace. Fairfield was numbered one of eight lawful ports of the colony. An act was passed for entering and clearing ships and other vessels, and an officer appointed, called the Naval Officer, to attend to this business.\*

In order to prevent persons who owned slaves from setting them at liberty when they were too old to take care of themselves, an act was passed causing such owners to support their slaves during their old age.†

The five assistants or judges of the counties of New Haven and Fairfield were appointed to hold the Court of Assistants at New Haven in October, and any three of them were to constitute a quorum, the eldest assistant to preside.

The constables of Fairfield and Stratford were ordered to pay a lawful portion out of the annual school tax to the school in Stratfield. Captain Nathan Gold, Lieutenant John Wakeman and Mr. Peter Burr, or any two of them, were appointed to lay out six hundred acres of land in the town of Fairfield, for the benefit of a grammar school.‡

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1689-1706, p. 372.

† Col. Rec. Conn., 1689-1706, p. 375.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., 1689-1706, p. 402.

In response to a letter of the Privy Council announcing the death of King William, in which the Queen expressed her good will to her subjects in Connecticut, it was ordered that an address should be drawn up and sent to the Queen, "to congratulate her upon her majestie's happy accession to the crown, with thanks for her majestie's grace & favor manifested to us."\* Soon after (May 4th) Queen Anne, the Emperor of Germany and the States General declared war against France and Spain. Thus the colonies were again involved in a French and Indian war.

A tax of two pence half-penny was laid on taxable estates in every town for the maintenance of schools. The town clerks were ordered to keep a list of the freemen of each town, and to call each freeman's name at every freeman's meeting, and if any of them was absent without good cause a fine of two shillings was imposed.†

Dougal McKensy received from the town a grant of land on the extreme end of Sasco Hill, now known as Kensy's Point. About the same time the town granted John Barlow a point of land on the opposite side of Mill River, called the Indian Sasco Neck field.

Captain Nathan Gold and Peter Burr, Esq., were chosen Assistants and Lieutenant John Wakeman and Mr. Samuel Squire deputies from Fairfield to the General Assembly.

1703. The farmers at Maxumux were given liberty to erect a school-house on the green about where the present school-house now stands. Thomas Whitney was granted liberty to build a mill upon Compo Creek.‡

Forty foot of land by a town vote was granted John Edwards at Fairfield in front of his house, once the homestead of the Rev. John Jones. In this way this place was extended out into the Meeting-house Green towards the pond.

A portion of the school long-lot was granted to Joseph Bradley in exchange for other land in the Mile of Common (towards maintaining a school at Greenfield Hill). Land called Rocky Neck, lying west of the creek which puts in from Mill River, was also re-purchased of the Indians.

The hill known as Clapboard Hill, and occupied as an Indian reservation, was now ordered to be purchased for the use of the town. John Burr and Moses Dimond were granted liberty to erect a saw-mill on Mill River. John Edwards and John Sturges were given liberty to build a wharf on the Uncoway River, where the Penfield Mills afterwards stood.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1689-1706, p. 399.

† Col. Rec. Conn., 1689-1706, p. 398.

‡ B. Town Votes, 117.

Mr. Peter Burr of Fairfield was made an Assistant of the General Court at this time. Captain Nathan Gold was appointed to be Judge of the Court of Assistants at New Haven.\*

Soldiers in the fall were sent against the Eastern and Western Indians. A Committee of War was organized to send troops to Massachusetts and the frontier towns. Each township was confirmed in its patent rights.

1704. A special Assembly was holden in Hartford on the 15th of March, when the civil and military commissioned officers were required to care for the friendly Indians, and to set them their limits, that none of them should harbor or be exposed to the influence of unfriendly Indians. A premium of ten pounds was offered to any one who should deliver up an unfriendly Indian. Suitable houses were ordered to be fortified in each town. Sixty men were to be sent to garrison the County of Hampshire, sixteen of whom were to be sent from Fairfield County. Mr. John Burr, Jr., son of Major John Burr, was appointed a Commissary for the County of Fairfield.† At the meeting of the General Assembly at Hartford May 11th, Captain Nathan Gold and Mr. Peter Burr were chosen Assistants, Ensign John Osborn and Sergeant John Burr deputies for Fairfield. Captain Nathan Gold, Mr. Peter Burr and Captain John Wakeman of Fairfield were appointed on a committee of public safety for Fairfield County. The frontier towns in the colony were ordered not to be broken up, as they were to be properly guarded. No male person from sixteen years old and upward was allowed to leave any of the towns, under a penalty of ten pounds. The selectmen in every town in the colony were ordered to provide a sufficient number of knapsacks and hatchets, with strong belts for them, for every sixth man in each trainband; snow-shoes were also to be provided, and the troops held in readiness to march in summer or winter. Encouragement was offered to friendly Indians to enlist as volunteers. Drums were ordered to be beaten for raising volunteers. A rate of a half-penny was levied on all the inhabitants of the colony. Ensign John Osborn was appointed captain and Sergeant John Hawley lieutenant for the soldiers raised in Fairfield County.‡

Captain Nathan Gold was made Judge of the County Court and Probate Court of Fairfield.

It was also made a law that in every county "a sober, discreet &

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1689-1706, p. 412.

† Col. Rec. Conn., 1689-1706, p. 458.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., 1689-1706, p. 465.



religious person should be appointed by the County Court, called the Queen's Attorney, to suppress vice & immorality."

1705. The chartered rights of the Connecticut Colony were still threatened by the ambitious intrigues of Governor Dudley of Massachusetts and Lord Cornbury, then governor of New York. Both hoped by their influence in England and by their representations to parliament of the necessity and value of uniting all the English colonies under one government, to thus deprive the colonies of their charters and the land holders of their chartered landed estates from the General Courts. But our wise forefathers appointed Sir Henry Ashurst, a firm friend of the colonies, their agent to protect and plead with the court party of England for their chartered privileges. In the latter part of King William's reign a bill to unite all the colonies was prepared, and upon the accession of Queen Anne it was presented to parliament. But so earnestly and impressively did Sir Henry Ashurst plead the chartered rights of the colonies before the Lords, spiritual and temporal, May 3, 1701, that it could not be carried through the House. Again, in 1704, Governors Dudley and Cornbury made a direct declaration that Connecticut, "while not guilty of mal-administration, piracy, or any illegal trade, yet she had illegally & fraudulently possessed herself of large tracts of lands belonging to gentlemen residing in & out of the colony, & to Owaneco a Mohegan chief." In an article of complaints other grave charges were brought against Connecticut.

The Assembly appointed Governor John Winthrop, Captain Nathan Gold and Mr. Peter Burr, with four other gentlemen, to be a committee to consider the complaints laid against the colony in England, and to furnish their agent in England with directions and information, in order to answer said complaints. They were also instructed to inquire into the complaints of Owaneco. Before the Queen had heard from the Connecticut agent, she appointed Governor Dudley and eleven others to examine into and determine the whole affair. These men soon after gave judgment against the colony.

Sir Henry Ashurst meanwhile had not been idle, and the following year appealed to her Majesty's Council, and so ably and skilfully presented the facts of the situation that in consequence her Majesty appointed a commission of review. For seventy years this matter remained unsettled; but the first decision of King George III. in Council was in favor of Connecticut. During all these years Connecticut continued to

flourish and in the wise and even tenor of her ways to act under her chartered liberties, and in confirming her chartered privileges to the planters of each town.

1705. Captain Nathan Gold and Peter Burr, Esq., were made Assistants, and Lieutenant John Wakeman and Mr. John Burr deputies for Fairfield to the General Assembly. The town was visited with a sad calamity this year in the burning of Richard Ogden's mill, which was afterwards rebuilt. To burn a mill in those days was a serious matter to the inhabitants of any town.

Captain Nathan Gold was again appointed Judge of the County and Probate Courts of Fairfield.

Captain John Wakeman, Lieutenant Joseph Wakeman and Samuel Squire were appointed officers of the train-band for the east end of the town of Fairfield; and Captain John Osborn, Lieutenant John Barlow and Ensign Theophilus Hull officers for the company at the west end of the town. Messrs. Peter Burr, Sergeant Richard Hubbell and Lieutenant John Barlow were appointed to make a list of the freemen of Fairfield.

By an act of parliament the colonies were ordered to supply her Majesty with masts and stores for her navy and other shipping. Captain Nathan Gold was appointed one of a company of thirty to supply this demand. Thus our fine forest trees were hewn, and the colony forced to support the English navy and shipping interests.\*

During this year a distinguished French gentleman named Anthony Nougier settled at Fairfield, who became an honored and useful resident of the town.†

1706. Captain Nathan Gold and Mr. Peter Burr were again elected Assistants, and Captain John Wakeman and Mr. John Edwards deputies from Fairfield to the General Assembly. The law against heretics, so far as it respected Quakers, was repealed. Hitherto Quakers had not been allowed to remain in the colony under a penalty of five pounds against any town that entertained them. They were fined and imprisoned if they remained in the colony. "Any person who should unnecessarily discourse with them" was made liable to a fine of 20 shillings. A fine was imposed upon masters of ships who landed them in the colony, and also upon anyone who read their books. The repeal of this law was made through the influence of Sir Henry Ashurst, the Governors of

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1689-1706, p. 523.

† Appendix Genealogical.

Massachusetts and New York having entered this law against the Quakers in their bill of complaints to the English government.

The last Thursday in May was appointed a day of fasting and prayer.\*

In the October sitting of the General Assembly at New Haven all ministers and their families were made exempt from paying taxes of any kind.† Several other acts of importance were passed.

Drunkenness, "whereby a man was bereaved or disabled in his understanding, speech or gesture," was fined ten shillings.§ All public and private tipping was forbidden under a penalty of forty shillings against the heads of families where it took place. If the offenders had not means to pay fines, then they were to be "set in the stocks not more than three hours & not less than one hour." Every town in the colony was ordered "to maintain at their own expense a good pair of stocks with lock & key to secure offenders," under a penalty of ten shillings a month against selectmen who failed to comply with this law.

Captain Nathan Gold and Mr. Peter Burr were appointed to lay out to the Rev. Samuel Wakeman two hundred acres of land granted to him May 8, 1703, as well as to lay out to Richard Osborn of Fairfield eighty acres of land for his good services in the Pequot War.§

The town appointed a committee to renew the highways between the Long lots, and to survey them as exact as possible, according to their first laying out, and make a report to the town.

The towns throughout the colony were greatly pleased at this time to receive assurances from Sir Henry Ashurst that, in spite of all the demands, expense and impositions practised upon them by Governors Dudley and Cornbury, "they had a clear right to command their own militia; & that the governors of the neighboring colonies had no right to demand their men or money, nor were they under any obligations to them beyond furnishing such quotas as her Majesty required."

This was joyous news for the colony of Connecticut, which had been put to great expense by the ill-disposed methods in which Dudley and Cornbury had drained them of men and resources. To such expenses had the colony been reduced by these extortions, that the General Assembly was forced at this time "to levy a tax of more than two shillings on the pound, on the whole taxable list of the colony," of which Fair-

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1689-1706, p. 547.

† Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 2.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 5.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 11.

|| Trumbull's Hist. Conn., Vol. I., p. 451.



field bore her proportion. These taxes, says Mr. Trumbull, "were laid & collected on grain, pork & beef & other articles of produce; & were taken to Boston & shipped for the West Indies, from the sale of which money & bills of exchange were made to pay the bills drawn upon the colony in England, & to discharge its debts at home."

Since the opening of this century a new religious element had arisen, which threatened secession from the long Established Church of the colony. From its beginning Connecticut had allowed only the Congregational mode of worship. We have, therefore, now reached a very interesting epoch in the ecclesiastical affairs of the town of Fairfield. In the year 1701 a society was established by the Church of England for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. One special object of this society was to instruct the American Indians and African slaves in the doctrines of the Christian religion. It appears that several missionaries from this society were sent to Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York and New Jersey before one was sent to Connecticut. The Rev. Mr. Muirson of Rye, in the province of New York, where the Church of England was the established church, was the first clergyman who introduced the service of the Church of England to the people of Fairfield. It appears that he had been invited by a few English families at Stratford, who had removed there from New York, to visit and preach in that town. Mr. Trumbull says: "The ministers & people in that & the adjacent towns, it seems were alarmed at his coming, & took pains to prevent their neighbors & families from hearing him. However, the novelty of the affair & other circumstances brought together a considerable assembly, & Mr. Muirson baptized five & twenty persons, principally adults." Colonel Heathcote of New York accompanied him to Stratford upon this occasion.\*

\* "Colonel Heathcote was Judge of Westchester, and Colonel of its militia all his life; first Mayor of the borough of Westchester; a counsellor of the Province; Mayor of New York for three years; for a time Commander of the Colony's forces, and from 1715 to the time of his death Receiver General of the Customs in North America. He was also one of the founders of Trinity Church, New York." Bolton's Church in Westchester County. He resided at Mamaroneck and was very zealous in spreading the influence of the Church of England wherever he found an opportunity.

In 1679 a number of Episcopalians living in Boston petitioned King Charles that they might be allowed to exercise the rights and usages of the Church of England. The petition was granted and they soon after erected King's Chapel.—In a letter written "To the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London and all others, the Honorable Members of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, by the Rev. Mr. Keith, dated Nov. 29, 1702, he gives an interesting account of his mission, and works after his arrival in Boston June 11, of the same year. He says: "In divers places in New England where we travelled, we found many well affected to the Church, not only the people—

1707. A special Council of War, of which Mr. Peter Burr was a member, was held at Hartford on the 6th of February, to take into consideration a letter sent to them from Deputy-Governor Treat; and also a letter from Colonel Schuyler, informing the Council he had information that the French and their Indian allies were about to make a descent upon the frontier towns of New England. The Photatuck and Owiantonuck Indians were also reported to be in league with them. The Council at once resolved to send Captain John Minor and Mr. John Sherman of Woodbury with all convenient speed to "remove the said Indians to Fairfield & Stratford." But if sickness prevailed among them, then to take some of their principal persons and convey them to Fairfield, to be kept safely as hostages to secure the fidelity of those that remained in those inland places. The frontier towns of Symsbury, Waterbury, Woodbury and Danbury were ordered to fortify themselves immediately, and to send out scouts daily to watch the enemy.\*

At a special meeting of the General Assembly holden in Hartford April 2d, by order of Governor John Winthrop, he informed those present that the occasion of calling them together was on account of receiving a letter from Governor Dudley requesting forces to be sent from Connecticut to assist him in an expedition against the French and Indians in Acadia and Nova Scotia. On the 3d of April Assistant Nathan Gold was made one of a committee to consider and prepare a letter in reply to Governor Dudley's. A letter was drawn up, presented and approved by both houses, in which it was stated: "They did not consider it their

but several Presbyterian ministers in New England, who received us as brethren, and requested us to preach in their congregations, as accordingly we did. These were Mr. John Cotton (a grandson of old John Cotton) the Presbyterian minister at Hampton, where I preached twice, and Mr. Talcot once, having very great auditories; Mr. Cushing, a Presbyterian minister at Salisbury, eight miles distant from Hampton westward, where we both preached on a Sunday, and I had a great auditory; Mr. Gordon Saltonstall at New London, fifty miles westward from the Narragansetts, where we both preached on a Sunday; the people generally well affected, and those three ministers aforesaid, all worthy gentlemen, who declared their owning the Church of England, and that if they were in England, they would join in external communion with her; and were there a bishop in America, we doubt not but several would receive ordination from him."

Among the churches enumerated in New England in 1696 in Cotton Mather's *Magnalia* (Chapt. 8, B. I.) he states that in the County of Suffolk, Mass.: "There is a small congregation that worship God with the ceremonies of the Church of England; served generally by a change of persons, occasionally visiting these parts of the world." Altogether the county of Suffolk seems to have been an independency of itself, for Mather again states, that in that town there was, "also another small congregation of *Antepedo Baptists*," with a settled minister named Mr. Emblin. And a *French* congregation of Protestant Refugees, under the pastorate of Monsieur Daille."

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 15.

duty to comply with his request, & therefore for divers reasons do decline the same; & what may be further expected of like nature do altogether discourage from joining in any such enterprises.”\*

The Assembly met again May 8th, and held its session until the 22d. Mr. Jonathan Sturges was present as one of the deputies from Fairfield. An addition was made to the law entitled:

*“Inhabitants & whom to admit, That if any transient person should take up his or her abode in any town, contrary to the established law of the colony, without the authority of the select-men, said person should pay twenty shillings for the use of the poor; & if after due warning to depart, he refused to leave & had no estate to satisfy a fine, then such person after the expiration of ten days was ordered, “to be whipt on the naked body, not exceeding ten stripes.”†*

One Samuel Carter of Deerfield, who had been attacked by the French and Indians, who had rifled his house, destroyed his cattle, killed his wife and three children, and had four other children taken into captivity, one of whom was redeemed by paying twenty-five pounds, was recommended by the Governor and Council to the charity of New Haven and Milford and to the several towns in the County of Fairfield.

At the October session of the Assembly, held in New Haven on the 9th, a petition was offered by Captain Nathan Gold, Mr. Peter Burr, Captain John Wakeman, John Edwards, Jonathan Sturgis, John Barlow, Gideon Allyn, Samuel Wilson, Samuel Jennings, Moses Dimon and Joseph Wakeman, all inhabitants of Fairfield, for a certain tract of land lying north of Danbury, to be laid out for a township, the boundaries of which were: “Southerly by Danbury, running north fourteen miles; easterly by New Milford & westerly by the colony line.” This petition was granted, the regulations of which were to be subject to the judgment of the Assembly. This tract was afterwards called New Fairfield. It was not, however, settled for some time, on account of the war with the French and Indians.‡

The death of Governor John Winthrop was the cause of calling the Assembly together at New Haven, December 17th, to elect a new governor. Mr. Gurdon Saltonstall was elected by a majority of both houses, and Captain Nathan Gold was made one of a committee to announce to Mr. Saltonstall that he had been chosen governor. The governor’s oath was administered to him January 1, 1708.

The Church of England services were this year again held in a private

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 17.

† Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1717, p. 21.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 34.



family at Fairfield by the Rev. Mr. Muirson, where he baptized a number of adults and children. He was accompanied by Colonel Heathcote, "to whose prudence & the eminence of his station, as he was a man of great consequence among them," Mr. Muirson attributed his success. The excitement caused by this effort to establish the Church of England in Connecticut was very great.

Among those of the New England colonists who were ranked under the name of Puritans there were many who had not separated from the Church of England, but had differed from that body in regard to certain errors which, from time to time, had crept in, or had been thrust upon them by the Church of Rome. They, too, had been subject to the same persecutions which the Congregationalists, Presbyterians and all other dissenting churches had endured; but when the Mother Church, purified from these errors, was presented to them by her missionaries, they welcomed her services with tears of joy. How touching and beautiful must her prayers, the Gloria in Excelsis, the grand Te Deum and the Benedicite, have sounded to them on this side of the Atlantic! Not all, however, who appeared pleased with the introduction of the Church of England in the colonies were honest by any means. Some were attracted by novelty; others thought to escape being taxed for the support of religion; while there were others who were from that leaven of evil which since time immemorial, from an inherent love of opposition and mischief-making, as natural to them as the air they breathe, have existed in all Christian bodies, and who are classed by our Saviour under the head of *tares*. Those, however, who professed to favor the Church of England were but few in number when compared with the multitude belonging to the Congregational or the Established Church of the Colony.

From an account given at this time by Colonel Heathcote to the Secretary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, it is shown how our forefathers were, many of them, greatly opposed to the introduction of the Church of England in Fairfield. He wrote:

"It would be absolutely necessary for the better & more easy effecting this great & good work, that an order be procured from her Majesty, requiring the government of that Colony not to force any of her subjects to pay for the maintenance of the minister settled by their laws, & to repeal that act whereby they pretend to refuse liberty of conscience to those of the Established Church. If these grievances were re-dressed, which in itself is very reasonable & proper, & not much more than hath been granted the Quakers, on their petition against the same government, it would be of greater service to the Church than can at first sight be imagined."

In the same letter he recalls some mention having been made in a previous letter:

—of a very ingenious gentleman at Stratford, one Mr. Reed, the Minister of that place, who is very inclinable to the Church, & if the charge can be dispensed with, he is well worth the gaining, being much the most ingenious man they have amongst them, & would be very capable to serve the Church. By reason of the good inclination he shows for the Church, he has undergone persecution by his people, who do all in their power to starve him; & being countenanced & encouraged therein by all the ministers round them, they have very near affected him; so that if any proposal could be made for his coming over for ordination, his family, which is pretty large, must be taken care of in his absence.”

In a letter from Mr. Muirson to the Secretary, dated April 4, 1707, which was written about two months after Colonel Heathcote’s communication, he relates his experience with the magistrates of Stratford, and says:

“One of the magistrates came to my lodging on Saturday evening. & read a long paper in the hearing of Col. Heathcote, & a great many people; the meaning of it was to let me know that theirs was a chartered government; that I had done an illegal thing in coming among ’em to establish a new way of worship, & to forewarn me from preaching any more.”

The law was also read to him, and he goes on to say:

“I was lately invited to preach & baptize some children in a town called Fairfield; upon which, I sent a letter to the minister & magistrates of said town, entreating the use of their meeting-house, supposing they would really grant it, being on a week day; but they refused it, & told me they would discountenance such new ways. A gentleman was so kind as to invite me to his house, where, notwithstanding all the stratagems they used to hinder the people from coming, I had a large congregation; but so cruelly was the Independent party set against us, that they railed & scoffed at the Church, making her as idolatrous as Rome, & denied us the liberty of ringing the bell, or beating a drum to give the people notice.”

Mr. Muirson was accompanied on this missionary visit to Stratford and Fairfield by the Rev. Mr. Evans, another missionary of the Society, who reported that they “found a considerable number of people in a ready disposition to be received into the Church, flexible to invitations, & only wanting occasions of instruction.”

A letter from Colonel Heathcote to the Secretary, dated April 14, 1707, relates that Mr. Reed was turned out of his church on account of his tendencies to the Church of England. He calls the Rev. Mr. Evans “an extraordinary good man, & one that hath done very great service to the Church, not only in Philadelphia, but in other neighboring towns.”\*

\* Doc. Hist. Prot. Episc. Church, U. S. A., by Francis L. Hawks, D.D., LL.D., and William Stevens Perry, A.M., p. 19.

1708. On the 5th of January the Assembly passed a law that the governor should be chosen by the people instead of by the magistrates in nomination as had been previously the case.\*

On the 13th of May the General Assembly and Court of Election were held at Hartford, where Nathan Gold and Peter Burr were chosen Assistants, and Ensign Theophilus Hull and Mr. John Burr as deputies to the General Assembly. Gurdon Saltonstall, Esq., was chosen governor for the ensuing year. Captain Nathan Gold was chosen deputy governor.†

The inhabitants of the west farms of Fairfield petitioned that they might be granted liberty to settle among them an orthodox minister of the gospel. The matter was recommended to the consideration of the reverend elders in the County of Fairfield, and to make their report at the October session of the Assembly.‡

It was decided at this time "that the major part of the inhabitants of a town who were entitled to vote, & were in full communion with the Church, should have full power to call & settle a minister, any law, usage, or custom to the contrary notwithstanding. And that all agreements made by them respecting the settlement & maintenance of a minister, should be binding upon the whole of said town or society."§

As concerning Dissenters from the lawful way of worship, "That if any such persons should qualify themselves according to an act made in the first year of the late King William & Queen Anne, granting liberty to worship God in a way separate & apart from that which is by law established, they shall enjoy the same liberty & privilege within the colony without any let or hindrance or molestation whatever. Provided always, that nothing herein shall be construed to the prejudice of the rights & privileges of the churches by law established in this government, or to the excusing any person from paying any such minister or town dues as are now or shall hereafter be due them."\*

Owing to misunderstandings in regard to the government of the Congregational Church, and for a nearer union among the churches, it was advised that the ministers of the several counties in the colony should meet together in their county towns, on the last Monday in June, with messengers from each church, to agree upon more definite rules for the management of ecclesiastical affairs. At the time of their meeting two or more of their number were to be appointed to meet at Saybrook at the next college commencement, for the purpose of devising a form of

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 39.

† Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 42.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 41.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, pp. 48, 50.



ecclesiastical discipline to be presented to the fall term of the General Assembly.\*

The Synod met May 13th, and the messengers chosen from Fairfield County were the Rev. Charles Chauncey of Stratfield and Rev. John Davenport of Stamford. The time appointed for meeting was at Saybrook, September 9th, when the Savoy Confession of Faith, with only a few alterations, was accepted. It was called the *Saybrook Platform of Faith*. This platform was approved of by the fall Assembly, and adopted as the instrument by which the established church and college of the colony should be governed.

It was made a law that the regular Council appointed to assist the Governor in maintaining the affairs of the colony according to their charter were not to raise men or money to send out of the colony, unless in case of exigency.†

The elders of the County of Fairfield were appointed to meet at Fairfield the last Monday in June to invite and call some special person to settle in their ministry; and whoever they saw fit to call should be maintained and supported until they agreed to settle a minister among them.

A home impost was levied on all liquors towards defraying the expenses of the colony, at the rate of fourpence a gallon on wine, rum, brandy and distilled liquors, twelve pence on each barrel of cider and two pence per gallon on metheglin. Every public and private house was subject to this fine, under a penalty of forfeiture, if not duly reported to the authorities. A duty was also levied on all imported liquors, at the rate of fifty shillings for a pipe of wine, rum or brandy, or other distilled liquors. A custom-house officer was ordered to be appointed in each county to collect these customs, and to employ as many officers under him as he should need to assist him in collecting said duties. He was authorized to seize all home liquors not reported, as well as such as should be landed without paying duty. The delinquents were subject to arrest and trial before each county court, and to be prosecuted from court to court till the case was ended. Black Rock was made the port for collecting these customs for Fairfield.

The ministers in the several towns were directed to preach an annual sermon proper for direction in the choice of civil rulers, on the day of election. This appears to have been the origin of town election sermons.‡

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, pp. 51, 87.

† Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 32.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 61.

Peter Burr, Esq., was appointed Judge of the County Court of Fairfield, and Deputy Governor Nathan Gold Judge of the Probate Court.

At the fall session of the Assembly, holden at New Haven, only one constable was appointed in each town, society or village, to make up and collect the annual taxes, with the treasurer of the town, etc.

The second Wednesday in November was appointed a day of public thanksgiving throughout the colony, and "all unnecessary servile labor" was forbidden.\*

The selectmen of each town were ordered to supply "a stock of ammunition, & a stock, also, of arms for the poor if need be."

Deputy Governor Nathan Gold was granted forty pounds salary for the year.

"Seven pence on the pound was levied on all rateable estates to pay the public expense, viz.: wheat at six shillings a bushel, rye three shillings a bushel, six pence on Indian corn a bushel; pork three pounds fifteen shillings a barrel; beef forty-five shillings a barrel; or if any person was disposed to pay his or her taxes in money at fifteen penny-weight for six shillings, it should be accepted at two-thirds."†

All persons above the age of forty five were released from serving in the train-bands, but not from keeping arms and ammunition, nor from voting in the choice of their commissioned officers. Every sentinel was ordered to appear complete in his arms on the regular training days, or pay a fine of five shillings.‡

The tax upon cider and metheglin was repealed. The constables and treasurers of the County of Fairfield were required to make all their tax collections on or before the first week in June.

Deputy Governor Nathan Gold was ordered to take charge of "one barrel of powder with lead & flints" for the use of the soldiers in the county. He was also given authority to erect two garrisons at Woodbury, Danbury and Oweantenuck, and support them with men and provisions at the expense of the colony.

Fifty pounds was allowed for bringing up and maintaining dogs for the northern frontier towns, to hunt after the Indian enemies, to be always ready for the service of the colony.§

A severe penalty was inflicted upon those who sold guns or ammunition to the Indians.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 72.

† Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 82.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 83.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 1706-1716, p. 86.

Mr. Peter Burr was appointed major of the Fairfield County militia regiment.\*

The introduction of the services of the Church of England into Fairfield do not seem to have met with much success this year; on the contrary, they met with great opposition. In a letter written by the Rev. Mr. Muirson to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, he says:

“They call the Church of England the sister of Rome.” On the 9th of January, 1708, he writes to the Secretary: “And though every Churchman pay his rates for the building & repairing their meeting-houses, yet they are so maliciously set against us, that they deny us the use of them, though on week days. They tell our people that they will not suffer the house of God to be defiled with idolatrous worship. They say the sign of the cross is the mark of the beast, & the sign of the Devil, & those who receive it are given to the Devil.” †

It seems that in 1707 several gentlemen in Stratford formed themselves into a Church of England Society and petitioned the Queen that they might be allowed to enjoy the freedom of the services of that Church, and also to be made exempt from paying taxes towards the support of the Congregational Society. Before they received a reply to their petition the Rev. Mr. Muirson was taken from them, he having died in October of this year. The Rev. John Talbot wrote, February 14, 1708, of the Rev. Mr. Muirson: “The people of Norwalk and Fairfield are ready to break open their meeting-house doors & let him in if he would suffer them.” They had hoped to enjoy the regular services of Mr. Muirson in their society and to unite with Fairfield in his maintenance. His death was a great blow to them, and their past efforts to establish the Church now seemed almost hopeless. For some years the churchmen of Stratford and Fairfield were visited only occasionally by missionaries stationed at New York and New Jersey, among whom were the Rev. Messrs. Talbot, Sharpe and Bridge. Mr. Sharpe upon one of his visits spent a month at Stratford, and baptized a number of people both in Stratford and Fairfield.

1709. At the meeting of the General Assembly at Hartford, May 12th, Nathan Gold was re-elected Deputy Governor, Peter Burr an Assistant and Captain John Osborn and Mr. James Bennet deputies from Fairfield.

A letter from Queen Anne, dated March 2, 1709, to Governor Saltonstall, requiring the assistance of her subjects in the colony in an expedi-

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 1706-1716, p. 88.

† Hist. Prot. Episcopal Church, Bishops Hawks and Perry, p. 30.



tion to be immediately made against the French in Canada, Acadia and New Foundland, was laid before the Assembly. Connecticut was directed to raise three hundred and fifty men to be sent on the expedition.

Anxious to be freed from the common enemies of the colonies, who had constantly harassed, murdered and plundered their frontier towns, and burned and laid waste their homes and plantations, the Assembly without hesitation granted to arm and equip the number of troops required. All the towns in the colony were to send their quota of men, and thirteen men were to be sent from Fairfield.\*

This expedition was, by the advice of the Earl of Sunderland to her Majesty, to be dispatched from Boston by the middle of May, with five regiments of regular troops. Twelve hundred of these troops were to be sent from the towns east of Connecticut, thoroughly equipped and prepared with " transports, flat-bottomed boats, pilots & provisions for three months," to make an attack upon Quebec. Fifteen hundred men were to be raised and sent from Connecticut, New York, New Jersey and the southern colonies. They were to proceed by way of the lakes and make an attack upon Montreal.

Colonel William Whiting was given the command of the Connecticut troops.

Ex-Lieutenant Governor Nichols of New York was appointed to command the troops by land as far as Wood Creek, and there await the arrival of the English fleet at Boston. " More than a hundred batteaux & an equal number of birch canoes were constructed for crossing the lakes. Three forts, block houses & stores for provisions were erected." But the fleet from England did not arrive, on account of the defeat of the Portuguese, which caused the fleet destined for America to be sent to Portugal. The troops of the colonies returned home in the fall, greatly disheartened and chagrined at the failure of the expedition. Many of them had died, and Connecticut lost about ninety of her men. But it was resolved not to give up the undertaking, but to await the opening of spring, when, with the friendly assistance of the Five Nations, they hoped to continue the war. Governor Saltonstall visited New York for the purpose of holding a consultation with the governors of the other provinces as to the best mode to prosecute the war.†

Moses Dimon was appointed lieutenant and Mr. John Wheeler ensign of the train-band of Fairfield. Lieutenant John Wheeler of Strat-

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, pp. 99, 93.

† *Trumbull's Hist. Conn.*, 2, 457.

field was appointed surgeon and physician to go with the expedition to Canada.\*

On the 8th day of June a special Assembly was convened by order of the Governor and Council at New Haven. Governor Saltonstall laid before the Assembly the result of his visit to New York, and that the governors of New York and New Jersey and Pennsylvania were thoroughly in favor of another expedition. All necessary arrangements were made to further this agreement, as the colonies were inspired with the hope that their French and Indian enemies would be brought into subjection.

To such straits had the colony been reduced by the drain upon its treasury that the first paper money in Connecticut was issued by this Assembly, consisting of bills of credit upon the colony from two shillings to five pounds, the whole sum to amount to eight thousand pounds. These bills were to be taken and accepted in payment for the public debts at the advance of 12*d.* on the pound. Bills to the amount of four thousand pounds were to be first signed and issued, the remaining four thousand to be left unsigned until further orders. For the repayment and drawing in of these bills of credit and for defraying any further charges of the colony a rate of tenpence on the pound was granted to be paid into the treasury, one-half to be levied against the heads of the next list of public taxes, to be paid into the treasury before or by May 1, 1710, and the other half on or before May 1, 1711. The planters were to pay this tax either in bills of credit, silver money or in pork at fifty shillings per barrel, or beef at thirty shillings per barrel, winter wheat at four shillings per bushel, rye at two shillings fourpence per bushel and Indian corn at two shillings per bushel," all to be in good order and signed with the packer's mark.† This issue with all others up to 1740 were called old tenor bills.

The following note gives a correct description of the three shilling bill issued at this time:

## CONNECTICUT.

No.

1237

35.

## THIS INDENTED BILL OF THREE SHILLINGS

Due from the Colony of Connecticut in New England to the Possessor thereof shall be in value equal to Money. And shall be accordingly accepted by the Treasurer and Receiver subordinate to him; for any stock at any time in ye Treasury. Hartford, July the twelfth, Anno Dom.: 1709. By order of ye General Court.

JOHN ELIOT, }  
JOHN HAYNES, } Committee.  
JOHN CHESTER, }

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 99.

† Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, pp. 111, 112.

On the left of the committee signatures was the seal of the Colony of Connecticut with the grape-vines and our motto, "Qui Transulit Sustinet." (He who transplanted still sustains.)

The list of estates at Fairfield this year were valued at £16,708 16s.

Governor Saltonstall was appointed by the Assembly to visit England and to present to the Queen and her Council for the well being of the colonies the absolute necessity of prosecuting this war against the French and Indians. At the October session of the Assembly Captain Theophilus Hull, Lieutenant Samuel Couch and Ensign John Osborn were confirmed as officers of the west train-band of Fairfield; and Captain David Hubbell, Lieutenant Samuel Hubbell and Ensign Richard Hubbell for the village of Stratfield.

It appears that Colonel Whiting's Connecticut troops were some of them ill and in a sad condition at Albany. The Assembly ordered that the sick should be conveyed home by water and provided with every comfort, and that those able to move should march as speedily as possible, and Colonel Whiting was ordered to have his officers to disband their men when they reached home.\*

Laws for the improvement of militia companies were passed, and for calling out troops for her Majesty's service. Major Peter Burr, Captain Joseph Wakeman and Captain Theophilus Hull of Fairfield, with Mr. Joseph Curtis of Stratford, were appointed a committee of war for Fairfield County, to care for and defend the Connecticut frontier towns against the enemy.†

An act was passed to prevent young people from meeting in the evenings of the Sabbath Day; and if any sojourner, or any young person under the government of parents or masters, should meet in the streets, or elsewhere, or on the Sabbath or any public fast day or lecture day, they should be taken before a Justice of the Peace, and, if convicted, "pay a fine of five shillings to the public treasury, or be set in the stocks not more than two hours; provided this act should not be construed to hinder the meeting of young persons upon religious occasions.

In no town in the colony were the inhabitants more energetic and responsive to the call of the Governor and the General Assembly in raising men and money for the furtherance of the expedition against the French and Indians than Fairfield. Deputy Governor Nathan Gold was constantly active in all the duties of his various offices. Major Peter

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 123.

† Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 130.



Burr, the Captains Burr, Hubbell and Wakeman, with other officers, were busy in drilling and equipping their men for any emergency, either for the protection of the frontier towns near them or for the expeditions by land or water against the enemy. The town clerk and treasurer were constantly occupied in collecting the revenue, town and colony taxes. The mothers and daughters of Fairfield were equally busy in preparing clothing, stockings and bread for their fathers and sons, for everything was home made in those days. The spinning-wheel and the flax-looms were in constant use, and many a garment was wet with tears, lest their loved ones should never return. In all these undertakings, privations and hardships our forefathers struggled for the independence of our beloved country.

## CHAPTER VIII

1710—1720

### CONTINUATION OF THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR

Election of officers.—Bills of credit.—Counterfeiting.—Council of War.—Efforts to capture Canada.—Queen Anne's letter.—Response to the Queen's letter.—Troops ordered out.—Ships and transports.—Officers of Expedition.—Capture of Port Royal.—Military officers of Green's Farms.—Tax for the Expedition.—Parish petition of Green's Farms.—Connecticut and New York boundary line.—Major Burr's soldiers.—New Fairfield.—Expedition against Canada.—Green's Farm a parish.—Educational interests.—Bills of credit and taxes.—Smallpox hospitals.—County Courts.—Superior Courts.—Expedition against Canada.—Punishment of deserters.—Army supplies from Connecticut.—Dr. James Laborie and Dr. Copp.—Troops, supplies, and drums from Fairfield.—Army and Navy leave for Canada.—Failure of the expedition.—Connecticut garrison in frontier forts.—Land grant to heirs of Major Nathan Gold.—Renewed efforts against Canada.—Green's Farms boundary.—Laws for tavern-keepers.—Post fees.—Assembly at Fairfield of an Ecclesiastical Court.—Church attendance obligatory.—Public land to be sold for erecting a court-house.—Taxes.—Schools.—Yale college fees.—Grant of land to Green's Farms minister, to Rev. Mr. Webb and Rev. Charles Chauncey.—Perry's grist mill.—Laws for vicious persons.—New issue of bills of credit 1713.—Taxes on imports.—Reward for wolves and panthers.—Peace of Utrecht.—Great expense of Connecticut in the French and English war.—Charters in danger.—Indian deed of Clapboard Hill.—Highways between Long-lots.—County officers.—Preservation of forests.—Duties on wood exports.—Strict religious laws.—Bibles in families required.—Decline of religion.—Custom house at Black Rock.—A long drought.—Death of Queen Anne.—Accession of George I.—Green's Farms allowed to embody in a society.—Schools.—New mills.—Rev. Daniel Chapman called to Green's Farms.—Death of Rev. Charles Chauncey.—Fairweather Island.—Trustees of school lands.—Temperance laws.—Train-band officers of Green's Farms and Greenfield.—Chief Justice Nathan Gold.—Regulations for vessels on Sabbath days.—Parish laws for Sabbath worship, teaching, and for good morals.—Thanksgiving.—Fast day.—Greens Farms opens its Church and ordains Rev. Mr. Chapman.—Individual land grants to be secured.—Train-band officers for county troops.—Election sermon.—Schools.—Private persons not to purchase lands of Indians.—Taxes on imports, and on peddlers and non-residents of the colony.—Cattle pound laws.—Evangelizing the Indians.—Saw mill on Aspetuck River.—Dr. James Laborie a resident of Fairfield.—Land grant to the heirs of Captain Nathaniel Seeley.—County cavalry officers.—Drainage of Pine creek meadow.—Yale college.—Vagrancy not permitted.—Taxes for bills of credit.—Bills of credit issued.—Mr. Timothy Green of New London the engraver of bills of credit.—Bounds of parsonage lands.—Rev. Samuel Cook minister of Stratfield parish.—Value of estates of Fairfield 1719.—Fast day.

1710. At the Court of Election holden at Hartford, May 11th, Nathan Gold was chosen Deputy Governor, Peter Burr an Assistant, Captain John Wakeman and Colonel John Burr representatives from Fairfield to

the General Assembly. Nathan Gold was appointed Judge of the Court of Probate of Fairfield, and Peter Burr Judge of Fairfield County Court.

Judge Peter Burr and Moses Dimon were appointed to take charge of the arms, etc., of the soldiers of the County of Fairfield on the late expedition to Wood Creek, and to sell and dispose of them to the best advantage for the colony.

Dr. James Laborie was granted three shillings and fourpence per day for his services at Wood Creek as doctor and surgeon.

A provision was made that the fund to be raised for securing the repayment of the public bills of credit should be paid either in bullion at the rate of eight shillings an ounce Troy, or in bills of public credit, and in no other manner. And that all taxes levied for the payment of the public debts should be collected and paid into the colony treasury before the last day of June, 1715.

A law was enacted against counterfeiting the bills of credit under a penalty of six months' imprisonment, and such other penalty and corporal punishment as the Assembly should see fit to inflict.\*

Peter Burr was made one of the treasury auditors at a court to be held in New Haven in October, to consider the debts of the colony and the value of the bills of credit remaining in the treasury.

It was made a law that the Council to assist the Governor, or in his absence the Deputy Governor, in the intervals of the General Assembly, should consist of two assistants and four able, judicious freemen, to manage the public affairs; but not to send men out of the colony, nor to raise money unless in case of emergency.†

The failure of the expedition against Canada by no means discouraged New York or the New England colonies. It was believed that if England would send out an armament of sufficient size to join the troops of the colonies and their Indian allies Canada would soon be taken from the French. Accordingly, Colonel Schuyler of New York, at his own private expense, sailed for England, and took with him five sachems of the Five Nations. The sachems were introduced to the Queen. They made an address to her, setting forth their disappointment and grief at the failure of the late expedition against Canada, and entreated her to send out an armament to assist her Majesty's colonies in America to join them and her loyal Indian subjects to accomplish this most desirable

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 158.

† Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, 159.



undertaking, which, they represented, would not only bring peace to her subjects, but gladden the hearts of their tribes. Other efforts had been made to further this end, which proved to be for the subjection of Port Royal and Nova Scotia instead of Canada.\*

A letter from Queen Anne, requiring the assistance of her subjects in America on this expedition, led to a special Assembly convening at New Haven August 4th, which continued, after several adjournments, until August 11th.†

Owing to the defenseless situation of the frontier towns of the colony, and the numbers of men required for their protection, as well as great loss of men in the late expedition, the Governor and Council could only agree to send three hundred men from Connecticut to join in the new enterprise.

It was also agreed to procure sailors, vessels, provisions, etc., towards furthering the expedition. Each train-band was required yearly, in September, to send in an exact account of the number of its officers and men to the major of each regiment, who should make a report of the same to the General Assembly the following October.‡

General Nicholson was put in command of this expedition. Colonel William Whiting was commissioned to command the Connecticut forces. Captain John Burr of Fairfield was chosen major, and Dr. James Laborie surgeon.§ Everything was immediately made ready, and on the 18th of September a fleet of thirty ships set sail from Nantasket for Port Royal. The officers and soldiers landed without opposition on the 24th; and on the 22d of October the French commander, Monsieur Subercase, capitulated and surrendered the fort to Great Britain. After leaving a garrison to protect it under Colonel Vetch, who had been appointed Governor of the country, General Nicholson returned triumphantly home with the remainder of his forces. From this time this port received the name of Annapolis Royal.

The General Assembly met on the 12th of October, when Mr. James Bennet and Mr. Samuel Couch represented Fairfield. Mr. Samuel Couch was confirmed captain, Mr. John Osborn lieutenant and Mr. Benjamin Rumsey ensign of Green's Farms train-band.

Samuel Morehouse, Jr., of Stratfield, having embarked with Major

\* Trumbull's Hist. Conn., I, 460.

† Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 163.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, pp. 164, 165.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, pp. 167, 168.

|| Trumbull's Hist. Conn., I, 462.

John Burr from New Haven on the expedition against Port Royal, and by an accident in firing a gun lost his right hand, was granted ten pounds, and afterwards a yearly pension of five pounds.\*

The sum of seven shillings a week or one shilling a day was ordered to be paid to all private sentinels of the Port Royal expedition.

Bills of credit in sums of two shillings to five pounds, amounting to five thousand pounds, of the same tenor and date of June 8, 1709, were ordered to be printed, stamped and indented towards the payment of the public debts of the colony, "and accepted at an advance of twelve pence on the pound more."

A tax of five thousand two hundred and fifty pounds was ordered to be levied on all the poll and ratable estates of the towns in the colony and paid into the public treasury on or before August, 1718, to meet the payment of the outstanding bills of credit.†

Mr. Samuel Couch, on behalf of himself and the inhabitants of the western farms of the town of Fairfield, petitioned the Assembly that they should have liberty granted them to provide and settle an orthodox minister among them; and also be freed from paying towards the maintenance of the minister of the first society of the town. This privilege was ordered to be granted in full, at the May session of the Assembly, provided the town of Fairfield was notified four days previously, so as to give them an opportunity to show cause why this application should not be granted.‡

The salary allowed Deputy Governor Nathan Gold was fifty pounds for the year.

Hon. Nathan Gold and Judge Peter Burr, with Joseph Curtis, Esq., were appointed to apply to Governor Robert Hunter of New York to settle the boundary line between that province and Connecticut.

An act was passed at this time for the year ensuing that all ministers', town and school taxes should be paid in wheat, rye, Indian corn, pork and beef, according to their fixed valuation by the General Assembly.

The custom passed May 13, 1708, of collecting a tax laid upon all the churches in the colony with the town taxes for the support of the Congregational ministers was repealed.

At a meeting of the General Court, November 3d, at New London, Major John Burr was allowed a bill of charges for the support of him-

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 176.

† Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 182.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 183.

self and twenty-eight of his company in the late expedition from Plymouth to Stonington.\*

In the month of May, Ensign John Mitchell of Woodbury, acting as attorney for the Indians in the sale of their lands for the town of New Fairfield, conveyed deeds through John Minor to the following gentlemen residing at Fairfield, viz.: Captain Nathan Gold, Mr. Peter Burr, Ensign John Reed, John Edwards, Jonathan Sturges, John Barlow, Gideon Allen, Samuel Wilson, Samuel Jennings, Captain John Wakeman, Moses Dimon and Lieutenant Joseph Wakeman. The price agreed upon for the purchase of this land was twenty pounds. This deed was recorded May 19, 1710.†

1711. Encouraged by the success of the expedition against Port Royal and Nova Scotia, General Nicholson in June of this year made a voyage to England, with the hope of fitting out another expedition against Canada, in which all her Majesty's colonies in America should join. He was so successful in his appeal to the Crown that a fleet was immediately prepared to sail for Boston, there to be joined by the forces of the colonies.

The General Assembly and Court of Election met at Hartford May 10th, and continued at intervals until the 31st of the month. Nathan Gold was again chosen Deputy Governor of the colony, Judge Peter Burr an Assistant and Major John Burr and Captain Joseph Wakeman representatives for Fairfield.

Captain Samuel Couch, on behalf of himself and the inhabitants of the West Farms of Fairfield, again presented their petition for liberty to settle an orthodox minister of the gospel among them. Major Peter Burr, Captain Joseph Wakeman and Major John Burr, in behalf of Fairfield, opposed the petition; but the General Assembly saw fit to grant it, and freed the western farmers from paying towards the support of the minister of Fairfield, and that "they should have full power: as if they were a distinct town, to order all affairs relating to the support of the ministry among them: & for leasing & improving any land or estate formerly given to the support of the ministry, or of the school in the said town of Fairfield . . . and that the lands which shall fall within the said parish of the West Farmers, & not belonging to any inhabitants within the parish, shall not be rated or assessed to any charges or duties arising within the said parish." Judge Joseph Curtis of Stratford, Joseph

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 189.

† Fairfield Town Records.



Platt and John Copp of Norwalk were appointed a committee to survey and lay out the lands of the said western parish, and make a report of the same to the next Assembly.\*

The long and distressing wars in the reign of Queen Anne, which made many sad hearts and desolate homes in Fairfield and throughout the colony, had brought about a train of social demoralization. The Governor and General Court resolved to elevate the tone of society by being more rigid in the maintenance of public schools; and, owing to a general neglect throughout Connecticut in payment of forty shillings upon every thousand pounds, allowed for the support of grammar schools, the Assembly ordered that this sum should be paid out of the colony treasury and by the treasurer in bills of credit, "two thirds that sum as money."†

A patent of six hundred acres of land was ordered to be confirmed to Fairfield, near Danbury, which had been previously granted in 1672, for the maintenance of a grammar school.‡

One hundred acres of this land had been previously granted to Mr. George Hull of Fairfield, which the Assembly took care to reserve to him. Particular mention is made of this land in the grant made to the Rev. Mr. Webb and the Rev. Samuel Wakeman, which included in all one thousand acres.§

At the same time, upon the petition of Captain John Wakeman, two hundred acres of land, previously granted to the Rev. Samuel Wakeman, deceased, near Danbury, was confirmed to his heirs. An Indian deed of which was recorded at Fairfield October 25, 1710.||

An Indian deed of one hundred and fifty acres of land to Dr. Isaac Hall, Jr., Francis and John Hall, sons of the late Dr. Isaac Hall, lying near this land was confirmed to them and recorded 22d April, 1709.

Four thousand bills of credit were ordered forthwith to be printed, indented and stamped of the same tenor and date of June 8, 1709, and after being duly signed by the committee, to be delivered to the treasurer of the colony and used toward paying the public debts. A tax of four thousand five hundred pounds was levied on all polls and taxable estates within the colony, as a fund of security for the repayment of these bills

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 209.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 1706-1716, p. 213.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 1706-1716, p. 215.

§ Indian Deed of this land, Fairfield Town Records, Vol. 2, pp. 326, 240.

|| Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 1706-1716, p. 11, 215.

of credit, to be paid into the colony treasury before the last of May in 1720.\*

Separate houses in each town were ordered to be set apart for small-pox and contagious diseases. The officers of the towns were authorized to provide a house, lodgings, nurses, attendants and other necessities for the accommodation of the sick. Ship officers and seamen were not allowed to land if any contagious disease existed on board their vessel, and if they landed "they were to be immediately sent on board again." Nor was any person from the port permitted to go on board. Nurses caring for any person suffering from a contagious disease were not allowed to expose themselves to others in health under a heavy fine.†

Negro, mulatto or Spanish Indian slaves, who had been set at liberty by their owners in the colony, and who failed to support themselves, the former owners and their heirs were held responsible for their maintenance.‡

An act was passed for establishing Superior Courts and altering the time of holding County or Inferior Courts, by which one chief judge and four other judges, or any three of them, should hold court in each County town in the months of March and September of each year. This Court was ordered to be held for the County of Fairfield, at Fairfield, on the first Tuesdays of March and September. The Inferior Courts were ordered to be holden on the third Tuesday in April and the first Tuesday in November. The Governor, or in his absence the Deputy Governor, was made Chief Judge of the Superior Court. Judge Peter Burr, in the absence of the Governor or Deputy Governor, was made Chief Judge for the year. Commissions from the General Assembly were ordered to be given to each of the Superior Court Judges and Justices of the Peace, signed by the Governor and stamped with the seal of the colony.§

Upon the receipt of a letter from General Nicholson that a fleet from England would soon reach Boston for the reduction of Canada, the Governor and Council of War met on the 10th of June at New London to consider ways and means to assist in the undertaking. It was agreed that an immediate issue of six thousand pounds in bills of credit should be printed in advance of the meeting of the General Assembly, to fit out the Connecticut quota for the expedition.||

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, pp. 228, 229.

† Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 231.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 233.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 238.

|| Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 244.

A special General Assembly was convened at New London June 19th. Judge Peter Burr, Major John Burr and Captain John Wakeman of Fairfield were present. A letter was addressed to Queen Anne, in which, after representing the danger and frequent murders which the colonists had suffered from the French and their Indian allies, they pledged themselves to do all in their power to carry out her will and requests in the new expedition against Canada. They thanked the Queen most graciously, for the clothing, arms and ammunition she had sent them for their quota, which had animated the soldiers to a just sense of their duty to her.

Three hundred and sixty men were ordered to be equipped and made ready to join the expedition, of which sixty of them were to be Indians placed under the command of English officers. A suitable vessel to accompany the fleet was ordered to be made ready to carry supplies for our troops after they reached Canada, and to bring back the sick and wounded. Provisions for a four months' campaign were ordered to be made ready, part of which was to be sent by land by way of Albany and the remainder by the vessel which was to join the fleet. Two chaplains and three surgeons and physicians with suitable stores of medicines were ordered to go with the expedition. The troops were to be mustered as quickly as possible at New Haven and proceed to Albany.

A law was passed that deserters from the land or sea forces should be punished by a fine of twenty pounds, or six months' imprisonment.

The General Council of War having asked Governor Saltonstall to send a supply of beef and sheep, he at once forwarded to Colonel Hunter at Albany two hundred beeves and six hundred sheep. Ten ship carpenters were ordered to be sent to Albany to assist in making canoes and batteaux for the troops.\*

Dr. James Laborie, with Dr. Copp of Norwalk, were the only available surgeons to accompany the Connecticut troops, in consequence of which they were allowed to select two suitable persons to assist them.†

Troops and supplies were sent from Fairfield, and Captain Moses Dimon and John Blackman were paid forty shillings each for two drums for the band.‡

Everything was made ready in about a month's time; and on the 30th of July a fleet of fifty men-of-war, fifteen of which were from England, forty transports and six storeships "set sail from Boston for Canada.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, pp. 245-251.

† Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 260.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, pp. 267-269.

There were on board five regiments from England & Flanders, & two regiments from Massachusetts, Rhode Island & New Hampshire. The fleet was commanded by Admiral Hovenden Walker, & the army by Brigadier General Hill.”\*

On the same day that the fleet sailed General Nicholson set out on his march for Albany at the head of four thousand men. The Connecticut forces were commanded by Colonel William Whiting, those of New Jersey and New York by Colonels Schuyler and Ingoldsby.

Admiral Walker's fleet reached the mouth of the St. Lawrence on the 14th of August, and put into the bay of Gaspee to await the arrival of the transports. Here he remained until the 20th, when he set sail for Canada. On the 22d his fleet encountered a severe storm, and they were enveloped in a dense fog. The pilots advised sailing southward, but the Admiral, without having proper soundings or a true knowledge of the coast, ordered them to sail northward. In consequence he soon afterwards found his ships among breakers on all sides. Eight or nine of the English transports were wrecked, and out of seventeen hundred English officers and soldiers eight hundred and eighty-five were lost. Admiral Walker and General Hill only saved themselves by anchoring their ships. Admiral Walker as soon as the storm abated sailed for Spanish River Bay. Eight days passed before the remainder of the fleet arrived, when a council of war was held, and it was decided that the undertaking should be given up, and that English ships should return to England. General Nicholson had only the alternative left to retrace his steps.†

The failure of this expedition was a bitter disappointment to the colonists, upon whom the English officers laid all the blame of its miscarriage. They also blamed the French pilots, but they disclaimed all such charges, having early warned Admiral Walker of his danger. Learning of the fate of the fleet, General Nicholson returned with his army, as he deemed it at that time unsafe to cross the lake.

Fortunately not one of the colonial soldiers was lost, and only one small transport wrecked. But the failure of the expedition caused great alarm lest the French and their Indian allies should take advantage of the situation to harass and destroy the border settlements.

Meanwhile the Canadians, aware of the contemplated attack upon

\* Trumbull's Hist. Conn., Vol. I, p. 464.

† Trumbull's and Hollister's Hist. of Conn. Col. Rec. Conn., 1705-1716, pp. 243-274.



them, had made every possible preparation for resistance. Governor de Vaudreuille concentrated the full strength of his forces at Montreal and Lake Champlain. He encamped at Chambly with a force of three thousand men to resist the advance of the English and colonists.

The General Assembly met the 11th of October at New Haven. Deputy Governor Nathan Gold, Judge Peter Burr, as Assistant, and Mr. John Edwards and Mr. Samuel Hubbell as deputies were present from Fairfield. Judge Peter Burr was appointed to assist in auditing the treasury accounts.

The taxable estates at Fairfield, at this time, were valued at £16,881.

It was agreed that Connecticut should assist in sending thirty or forty men, and in paying towards maintaining garrisons in the Indian forts of the Five Nations on the Connecticut, New York and Massachusetts frontiers, and to secure the influence of the Five Nations to assist the English in any designs the enemy might make against them.\*

Judge Peter Burr and Dr. Copp of Norwalk were directed to lay out one hundred acres of land to the heirs of the late Major Gold, granted in 1687.†

Several councils of war were held in the fall to induce England to assist in continuing a war against Canada, and to send the pilots who served on board the men-of-war in the late expedition to England, and there make a true representation of the disastrous failure they had sustained. The pilots were sent, but an utter indifference was shown to anything they represented, or that any further effort should be made towards taking Canada.

1712. At the annual meeting of the General Assembly, holden at Hartford May 8th, Nathan Gold was elected Deputy Governor, Major John Burr Assistant, who was also a representative with Captain John Wakeman from Fairfield.

Ensign John Wheeler was appointed a lieutenant and Sergeant Gideon Allen ensign of the Stratfield train-band of Fairfield.

The committee appointed to lay out the boundary lines of Green's Farms having fixed the necessary bounds, made a return of the same to the Assembly. It was further shown by a petition dated May 9th, and signed by Joseph Lockwood, Simon Couch, John Lockwood and Christopher Sturgis, that they had erected and paid for a school-house.‡

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 279.

† Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 280.

‡ Col. Rec. Colleges and Schools, Vol. I.

Three thousand pounds in bills of credit were ordered to be issued at the rate paid in 1711, "to pass out of the treasury at the advance of twelve pence on the pound more." A tax of three thousand three hundred pounds was levied on the polls and taxable estates of the colony to meet this demand, to be paid in or before the last day of May, 1720.

On the 28th of March, at a town meeting at Fairfield, it was voted, that Mr. John Meridith, the county surveyor, should renew the highways between the long lots as they were originally laid out. The building lots north of the mile of common were also ordered to be laid out.\*

Fairfield being the shire-town of the county, had several taverns and private places used for the accommodation of the assembling of the courts. It was also a seaport town. The following law was passed at this time for the well-being of all the towns in the colony. It was ordered that no inn or tavern keeper should entertain single person boarders or sojourners, or any young persons, or other inhabitant under the control of parents or masters, to meet together in their houses, or in the evening after the Sabbath, or public days of fast, or lecture days, under a penalty of fifty shillings cash.†

The postmen who carried the mails from town to town complained of the small amount paid them. It was agreed by the Assembly "that they should be allowed from April to November for themselves & horses three pence a mile, & from November to April three pence half-penny a mile in money."‡

Judge Peter Burr was made one of the treasury auditors, and also Judge of the County Court, and Deputy Governor Nathan Gold Probate Judge of Fairfield.

Great care was taken at this time in regard to the good character, attainments and strict orthodox belief of the candidates of the Established Church of Connecticut. The General Association met at Fairfield on the 12th September, 1712, and agreed upon a series of rules for their examination.§

Persons neglecting to attend the public worship of God, "as the law directs & obliges them," were to suffer the full penalty of the law.¶

The Assembly nominated and appointed Deputy Governor Nathan

\* Fairfield Town Records.

† Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 317.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 318.

§ Trumbull's Hist. Conn., Vol. I, p. 516.

¶ Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 323.

Gold Chief Judge of the Superior Court, and Judge Peter Burr one of his assistants.\*

It was agreed to sell at a public vendue, to be held at Fairfield Meeting-house in August, all strips of land and all public land lying between Danbury and Fairfield, reserving highways. Judges Nathan Gold and Peter Burr were appointed to make the sale. The proceeds of this sale were to be appropriated towards erecting a public-house or houses for the use of the Assembly and other courts. The purchasers of this land were to be given patents for it, provided they purchased the native Indian right.†

All improved lands and home lots of three acres were valued at three pounds a lot; meadow lands, both salt and fresh at Fairfield, at ten shillings an acre and boggy land at seven shillings and sixpence per acre.‡

The General Assembly met at Hartford on the 9th of October. Illness prevented Deputy Governor Nathan Gold and Judge Peter Burr from being present. Captain Samuel Couch represented Fairfield.

It was decreed that every parish should have a school of its own, and that forty shillings on every thousand pounds should be paid out of the taxes of each parish towards its support; that the forty shillings on every thousand pounds for the maintenance of grammar schools in the county towns should be paid in money or bills of credit, and that the villages which should become offshoots of the county towns should receive forty shillings for school purposes.§

For maintaining a rector and tutor of the Collegiate School at Saybrook one hundred pounds was allowed out of the colony treasury in money or in bills of credit.

1713. At a town meeting held at Fairfield in April: "The town granted to the first gospel minister that should settle at Maxumux or the west parish in Fairfield six acres of land in some convenient place within the parish. It was also voted that a house should be built for the accommodation of the minister of the west farms, two & forty foot long, twenty foot wide, two stories high, with a cellar under one end, two chamber chimneys, & to cover it with four & a half shingles." An annual tax of sixpence on the pound was levied on the west farmers until the house should be paid for.||

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 332.

† Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 333.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 334.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 353.

|| Fairfield Town Records.

Several acres of land were granted the Rev. Mr. Webb on the north-west side of Mill Hill, which was afterwards exchanged for other land. Mr. Webb was also granted "the sum of ninety pounds in the current money of the colony, as his standing salary, in lieu of one hundred & two pounds formerly paid him in county pay." He was also granted fire wood.\*

Six acres of land was also granted to the Rev. Charles Chauncey of Stratfield, to be taken up within the limits of that parish, in some convenient place in the town commons. A committee was appointed to lay out these grants of land to the several ministers.†

Joseph Perry was given permission to erect a grist mill near the place where the saw-mill stood.

At the meeting of the General Assembly at Hartford May 14th, Judge Nathan Gold was again elected Deputy Governor, Judge Peter Burr an Assistant and Captain Joseph Wakeman and Ensign Richard Hubbell representatives from Fairfield.

It was ordered that the Assembly should in the future meet in the fall at New Haven.

"For the Correcting & Restraining of Rogues & Vagabonds, & other Persons of Evil Name & Fame, for Rude & Profane Discourse—having proved a snare to youth, especially which tended to the detriment of religion & pernicious consequences," it was made a law that the jail of each county town should also be a house of correction; and that any delinquent should be lodged in jail until brought before a court, where, if proven guilty, "he should be chastised by a whipping on his naked back in the jail, & to be kept at such labor as he was capable of doing, provided such an offender should not suffer for one offence more than fifty stripes." The keepers of the jails were to be allowed their pay for caring for said offenders out of their estates or labor.‡

The sum of £20,000 was ordered by the Assembly to be remitted and delivered to the colony treasurer, and to be the sum paid out by him for the public debts of the colony from time to time, according to the order given him.§

On account of counterfeiting the bills of credit, at a meeting of the Governor and Council held at New London, June 11th, Mr. Dummer of Boston, who had printed the bills, was ordered to reprint others, in

\* Fairfield Town Records.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol., 1706-1716, p. 382.

‡ Fairfield Town Records.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 1706-1716, p. 496.



the lower right-hand corner of each were to be, "on 2s. bills *A Dove*; 2s. 6d *A Cock*; 3s. *A Squirrel*; 5s. *A Fox*; 10s. colored green, *A Lamb*; 20s. in yellow, *A Deer*; 40s. in blue, *A Horse*; £5 in red, *A Lyon*; all dated May 1713." This new issue was in part to be exchanged for counterfeit and broken bills of credit.\*

At the General Assembly held in New Haven, October 8th, Deputy Governor Nathan Gold, Judge Peter Burr, Major John Burr and Captain Joseph Wakeman were present from Fairfield.

It was found necessary for protecting the financial welfare of the colony to lay a custom tax of five per cent. on all goods and liquors brought into the ports of the colony by persons of other colonies or places, and all such importers were to appear before the officers of each town, and after declaring the value of their goods or cargoes, to give bonds for the payment of said tax.

The Worshipful Peter Burr and Captain John Wakeman were commissioned to join with the Honorable Jonathan Law in running a division line between Connecticut and the Province of New York.

A reward of forty shillings was ordered to be paid to any person who should kill a grown wolf, a catamount or panther, and ten shillings for every young wolf.

It was announced to this Assembly that the Treaty of Peace of Utrecht had been signed on the 30th of March. A letter of congratulation was forthwith ordered by the Assembly to be sent to the Queen.

By this treaty the Bay and Straits of Hudson, the Island of St. Christopher, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland were surrendered by the French.†

The restoration of peace between Great Britain and France was of great consequence to the American colonies. Connecticut had lost many of her soldiers and been at great expense to meet the demands of the Governors of Massachusetts and New York. In the attempts to take Canada, and in protecting her own frontier towns and those of New York and Massachusetts, she had shown a most liberal spirit.

At this time the planters of Connecticut were alarmed at a design on the part of ambitious Englishmen "to obtain a new modelling of the plantations, & to make alterations in the civil government." It was agreed after several meetings of the Governor and Council to invite a union of all the New England colonies, in an effort to preserve their chartered liberties.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., pp. 387-389.

† Hollister's Hist. Conn., Vol. I, p. 382.

Deputy Governor Nathan Gold was not able, from ill health, to be present. Colonel Mathew Allen was sent in November to confer with him and with the Assistants at Fairfield as to the advisability of calling an immediate General Assembly. The reply was that they did not think it necessary.\* Nevertheless, it was agreed by the Council to send Jeremiah Dummer of Boston to England, as an agent in behalf of Connecticut, and to place in his hands one thousand pounds sterling for this purpose.

At a town meeting held in Fairfield December 28th, Captain Samuel Couch, John Lockwood and Ensign Benjamin Rumsey were appointed a committee to lay to the west parish ten acres of land granted to the first gospel minister within their precincts.†

1714. On the 25th of March following, the town ordered that this grant should be laid out on Clapboard Hill in the west parish, lately purchased of the natives. In January of this year the Indians of the west farms gave a deed of Clapboard Hill to the town of Fairfield.‡

The committee appointed to renew the highways between the long lots made the following report in May of this year:

"A record of the places & bounds of the highways renewed by the committee, appointed by the town, viz.: Lieut. Cornelius Hull, Segt. John Thompson, & Sergt. John Wakeman is as followeth, which highways are running up the Long Lots:

1st. One highway running up between the widow Wheeler's Long Lot & Stratford line, six rods in breadth be it more or less.

2nd. An highway running up between Richard Hubbell's Long Lot & Henry Jackson's, four rods in breadth be it more or less.

3rd. An highway between Samuel Morehouse & Robt. Turney's Long Lots, five rods in breadth be it more or less.

4th. An highway between Hendrick & Jos. Middlebrook Sen., long lots, four rods in breadth, be it more or less.

5th. An highway between Nathaniel Burr Sen. & Daniel Burr Sr. long lots, four rods in breadth, be it more or less.

6th. The mile of common bounded on the east with the long lots of Thomas Barlow's children, & on the west with the long lots of Jacob Grey, the front of the east line of the said mile of common, within about ten rod of Daniel Burr's fence at an heap of stone with a walnut spire in the midst, & an heap of stone at a black oak tree on the west side near a path.

7th. An highway between Obe'h Gilbert Sen. & Esbond Wakeman's long lot, four rods in breadth be it more or less.

8th. An highway between John Cabel. Sr., & Richard Osborn's long lot, six rods in breadth at the front, & at some distance from the front upward four rods in breadth.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1710, pp. 410-422.

† Fairfield Town Votes.

‡ Fairfield Town Records.

9th. An highway between Francis Bradley & Nathaniel Finche's long lot, four rod in breadth be it more or less.

10th. An highway between John Sturges Sen., & John Cabel jun. long lots, four rods in breadth, be it more or less.

11th. An highway between Eleazer Smith & Robt. Rumsie's long lots, four rod in breadth, be it more or less.

12th. An highway running near the road beyond Maxumux which goes to Saugatuck, bounded on the east with the long lot of Simon Couch, & on the west with Norwalk line, the south east side hath at the front a great oak tree between the said Couch, & said highway with an heap of stones."\*

It was upon these long lots that the descendants of the first settlers took up valuable and lucrative farms. The highways were wonderfully straight for miles back into the centre of Redding.

At the gathering of the General Assembly at Hartford, May 13th, Deputy Governor Nathan Gold was present, Judge Peter Burr as an Assistant, and Captain Joseph Wakeman and Major John Burr as representatives from Fairfield.

Judge Peter Burr was chosen one of a committee to audit the colony accounts.

Major John Burr was commissioned captain and Dr. James Laborie of Stratford lieutenant of the Fairfield County troops.

For preserving the forests of the colony, which had been an extensive source of revenue to many in the way of barrels, pipes, hogsheads and staves sent to the West Indies, it was enacted:

"That all barrel staves sent out of the colony to Massachusetts Bay, New York, New Jersey, Rhode Island & New Hampshire, should pay to the naval officers in each port where the said staves were shipped from, twenty shillings per thousand; & all hogsheads, or pipe staves, thirty shillings per thousand; and that all captains of vessels should give bonds for the payment of this custom, in default of which, their cargoes should be forfeited, one-half of the sale paid to the informer & one-half to the colony treasury."†

It was ordered that no town officer in time of peace should be obliged to mount any guard or soldier on the Lord's Day, or on other days of public worship.

The General Assembly,

—"taking into their serious consideration the many evident tokens that the glory is departed from us, the providences of God are plainly telling us that our ways do not please him, & knowing the great obligations that we are under, not only for the suppressing of all profaneness & immorality that so greatly threatens the ruin of the land, but also to encourage piety & virtue, do pray the Honorable, the Governor, to recommend to the

\* Fairfield Town Votes, 1714.

† Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 434.

reverend elders of the General Association, that the state of religion be strictly repaired into in every parish throughout this government; & particularly how & whether catechizing be duly attended, & whether there be a suitable number of Bibles in the various families in the respective parishes; & also if there be found in any of our parishes, any person that neglect attendance upon the public worship on Lord's days—to enquire what means hath been used with such persons to regain them to a compliance with their so necessary a duty, that thereby the worship of God be duly encouraged, observed & attended both in families & parishes; & likewise that there be a strict inquiry, which & what are the sins & evils that provoke the just Majesty of Heaven to walk contrary unto us in the ways of his providences, that thereby all possible means may be used for our healing & recovery from our degeneracy.”\*

Mr. John Edwards was appointed and commissioned the naval or custom-house officer of the port of Fairfield.† Deputy Governor Nathan Gold was made Judge of Probate, Peter Burr Judge of the County Courts and Major John Burr, James Bennet and John Edwards justices of the peace and Quorum of Fairfield County.

On account of a long drought, the first day of September was appointed “to be observed as a day of fasting & prayer throughout the colony.”

At a meeting of the Governor and Council in New Haven, October 13th, a letter from Jeremiah Dummer, then acting as agent for Connecticut in England, was read, announcing the death, August 1st, at White Hall, of her most gracious Majesty Queen Anne of happy memory, and that Prince George had been proclaimed king of Great Britain, France and Ireland. The Council ordered:

That the death of the Queen should be solemnized by firing minute guns on the following afternoon at three o'clock; and that the accession of King George I. should be celebrated at noon by the assembling of the New Haven regiment, fully armed, before whom the proclamation of his accession should be read. Each soldier was allowed half a pound of powder, & also wine & biscuit to celebrate the occasion. To prevent disorders on so joyful an occasion, no bonfires or fireworks were allowed, “but instead of these, illuminations be used, as a much more honorable signal of joy.”‡

At the meeting of the General Assembly in October, Deputy Governor Nathan Gold, Judge Peter Burr, Captain Joseph Wakeman and Major John Burr were present from Fairfield. The Assembly ordered that an address of congratulation should be forthwith prepared and sent to King George upon his accession to the throne of Great Britain.

The Bankside or west farmers of Fairfield were made happy by a

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 436.

† Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, p. 437.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 1706-1716, pp. 450, 451.



decree that they should be allowed "to embody themselves into a church & state."\*

For upholding and supporting good schools in every town and village in the colony, it was enacted: "That the selectmen of each town should visit & inspect its schools quarterly, & inquire into the qualifications of the masters, their diligence in teaching, as well as the proficiency of the scholars, & to make a report of the same to the next Assembly."

Richard Whitney proposed to erect a grist mill, and Gershom Bulkley and Moses Ward a fulling mill on the Sasco River.

On the first of November the inhabitants of the west farms held a parish meeting, and by vote it was agreed that the Rev. Daniel Chapman should be installed as pastor of the church. One penny on the pound was levied in order to pay the expenses of his ordination and to put up the meeting-house for the occasion. His ordination did not take place until the next year.†

A committee was appointed "to convey the first six acres of land to the Rev. Mr. Chapman of the West-farms, granted to the first gospel minister who should settle there."‡

The parish of Stratfield was deprived this year of its beloved and honored pastor, the Rev. Charles Chauncey, who died May 4th, leaving a widow and several children. His labors among the Stratfield people had been crowned with marked success. His church and house were situated near the old Pequonock burial ground.§

It appears at one time that Mr. Chauncey owned what is now called Fairweather's Island, which he sold on the 24th of March, 1709, to Benjamin Fairweather of Stratfield for the sum of eight pounds and six shillings in money.¶

1715. In February Captain Joseph Wakeman, Major Peter Burr and Captain Samuel Couch were appointed trustees by the town for the school lands, and particularly for the six hundred acres granted by the General Assembly to the town of Fairfield for the use of a grammar school.

At the meeting of the General Assembly held at Hartford, May 12th, the Hon. Nathan Gold was elected Deputy Governor, Judge Peter Burr

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 1706-1716, p. 454.

† Green's Farms Records, by Rev. Mr. Chapman.

‡ Fairfield Town Records.

§ Appendix—Genealogical.

¶ Fairfield Town Records of Deeds.

an Assistant and Captain Joseph Wakeman and Mr. Richard Hubbell representatives from Fairfield.

It was deemed necessary to make every possible effort to preserve the forests and to prevent hewing timber to be sent out of the colony.

Still more stringent laws "for the better regulating of taverns, & for preventing drunkenness & expense of precious time." Any one found guilty of "drinking strong drink, viz.: rum, cyder, metheglin or brandy (or mixt drink made with any of them) in any tavern, or house of public entertainment in the town in which he or they belonged, should be fined ten shillings in money. The tavern keeper for every breach of this act was fined thirty shillings." All money arising from such transgressions of this law was to be paid, "one half to the informer, & the other half towards the maintenance of the town poor." The constables and grand jurymen in each town were required to make diligent inquiry into any breach of this law.

Mr. John Osborn was confirmed captain, Jonathan Sturges lieutenant and Mr. Samuel Barlow ensign of the *west end train-band* of Fairfield. Mr. Thomas Nash was confirmed lieutenant and Mr. John Andrews ensign of the *west parish train-band* in Green's Farms.\*

Judge Peter Burr was made Judge of the County Courts and Deputy Governor Nathan Gold Judge of the Probate Court of Fairfield. The Hon. Nathan Gold and Judge Peter Burr were appointed Judges of the Superior Court, and Judge Gold was also made Chief Judge of the Superior Court.† In case of his absence the five judges named in succession were to act for him.

In October the General Assembly met at New Haven, where Deputy Governor Nathan Gold, Judge Peter Burr, Captain Joseph Wakeman and Lieutenant Richard Hubbell were present.

The chartered liberties of the New England colonies were again endangered. There were parties in England who were strongly opposed to charter government, and who looked upon the New England colonies as too independent of the government of the mother country. A bill was therefore introduced into Parliament to repeal the charters which had been given to the colonists. Mr. Jeremiah Dummer of Boston used his utmost endeavors to show cause why this injustice should be allowed. Several years passed, however, before a favorable turn took place in the

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 1706-1716, p. 504.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 1716-1725, p. 11.

state of affairs by which the colonists felt more secure in their chartered privileges.\*

A remarkable law was passed at this time:

"That no vessel sailing past any town or parish lying on said river, where the public worship of God is maintained, or shall weigh anchor within two miles of said place, unless, to get nearer thereto on the Sabbath day, any time betwixt the morning light & the setting sun; the master of such vessel shall be liable to the like penalty, as if he had sailed out of a harbor, any former usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding."

At the sitting of the General Court in October, answers were returned to the questions recommended in regard to the declension of religion in the colony, which were as follows:

"1st. A want of Bibles in particular families.

2nd. Remissness & great neglect of attendance on the public worship of God upon Sabbath days & other seasons.

3rd. Catechizing being too much neglected in sundry places.

4th. Great deficiency in domestic or family government.

5th. Irregularity in commutative justice upon several accounts.

6th. Tale-bearing & defamation.

7th. Calumniating & contempt of authority & order, both civil & ecclesiastical.

8th. And intemperance; with several other things therein mentioned."

The General Council and representatives of the Court ordered:

"That all judges & justices of the peace in the respective counties in this Colony be diligent & strict in putting in execution all those laws & acts of this Assembly made for the suppressing & punishment of all or any of the aforesaid mentioned immoralities & irreligious practices, that thereby the good end proposed in such acts & laws may be attained.

"That the select-men, constables & grand jurors in the respective towns in the Colony, shall from time to time strictly observe the following directions:

"That the select-men make diligent inquiry of all householders within their respective towns, how they are stored with Bibles; & upon such inquiry [if] any such householders be found, without one Bible at least, that the said select-men shall warn the said householders forthwith to procure one Bible at least, for the use & benefit of the said family, & if the same be neglected, then the said select-men shall make return thereof to the next authority; and that all those families, who are numerous, & whose circumstances will allow thereof, shall be supplied with a considerable number of Bibles, according to the number of persons in such families; & that they see that all such families be furnished with a suitable number of orthodox catechisms & other good books of practical godliness, viz.: such especially as treat on, encourage & duly prepare for the right attendance on that great duty of the Lord's Supper.

"That the constables and grand-jurymen in the respective towns in this Colony shall make diligent search after & presentment of all breaches of the following laws of the Colony:

"1st. An Act entitled Children to be Educated.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, pp. 376, 410, 522,

"2nd. The two last paragraphs of the law entitled Ecclesiastical.

"3rd. The first paragraph of the law entitled, An Act for the better detecting & more effectual punishing of Profaneness & Immorality.

"4th. An Act for the better observation & keeping the Lord's day.

"5th. The law, title lying.

"6th. The Law against Profane Swearing.

"7th. An Act to prevent Unseasonable Meetings of young people in the Evening after the Sabbath Days & other times.

"And to the end that all breaches of the said law be duly put in prosecution:

"*It is now resolved*, That the constables & grand-jurymen in the respective towns shall, in the evening mentioned in the said law, walk the streets & search all places suspected for harboring or entertaining any people or persons assembling contrary to the said act.

"8th. An Act for preventing Tipling & Drunkenness.

"9th. An Act for suppressing Unlicensed Houses, & due Regulating such as are, or shall be licensed, in the several paragraphs thereof.

"10th. An Act suppressing certain Meetings in licensed houses. And this law shall be understood & extended to prohibit heads of families & all other persons, as well as young persons (strangers & travelers only excepted) under the same penalties in said law, as well as to tavern keepers as others, so convening.

"11th. And that the several constables in the respective towns shall strictly observe & duly execute the several paragraphs of the law, title Constables, by making due presentment & information of all breaches of said law, & warning to all persons in their respective towns, who spend their time idly, or are tiplers & tavern-haunters.

"12th. That the said constables & grand-jurymen, in their respective precincts, shall take due care that the Lord's Day be sanctified, according to law, by inquiring after & making presentment of all such who shall profane the said day.

"*And it is further enacted by the authority aforesaid* That this act, together with a proclamation enforcing it, be forthwith printed & published throughout this Colony; & that they shall be publicly read annually, in the several towns in this Colony, at the public meetings, for choice of town officers. And that the said meeting be careful in the choice of their said constables, & grand-jurymen, that they choose men of known abilities, integrity & good resolution."\*

One of the growing evils of the times, by which murders, thefts, burglaries and other notorious crimes were committed, was by bringing into the colony slaves and Indian servants, on account of which a law was passed: "that any master of a ship or vessel, or any other person who should bring into the colony slaves to be left or sold, should give fifty pounds security for each slave to the naval officer of the port he had entered, to carry them away within a month's time."

The third Wednesday in November was appointed, "to be observed as a day of public thanksgiving to Almighty God," and the Governor was requested to draw up a proclamation of the same, to be sent to each town in the colony.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1706-1716, pp. 529-532.



A proclamation was also ordered that the 11th of April should be strictly observed as a day of fasting and prayer throughout the colony.

1716. At a town meeting held January 11th Justice Gold, Major Peter Burr, Lieutenant James Bennet, Major John Burr, Captain Joseph Wakeman and Captain Samuel Couch were appointed a committee to take into consideration the best way to secure "to the original & ancient proprietors & their descendants, a more ample & better confirmation of the lands within the limits of the township; & to make a report of the same to the next General Assembly, that they might obtain a grant or patent of said lands."

The General Assembly met at Hartford, May 10th. The Hon. Nathan Gold was elected Deputy Governor, Judge Peter Burr an Assistant, Captain Joseph Wakeman and Lieutenant Richard Hubbell deputies from Fairfield.

Captain Joseph Wakeman was appointed one of a committee to thank the Rev. Mr. Anthony Stoddard for his election sermon, preached upon the opening of the Assembly, and to request a copy for publication.

A tax of £3,150 was ordered to be levied on the towns in the colony to meet the repayment of the bills of credit.

Hon. Nathan Gold was made Judge of Probate and Peter Burr Judge of the County Courts. Hon. Nathan Gold was also made Chief Judge of the Superior Court.

Matters of little interest to Fairfield occurred at the sitting of this court. The Assembly met again on the 11th of October at New Haven, when Fairfield was fully represented. Its taxable estates were shown to be valued at £18,443 5s. 8d.

The Parish Record of Green's Farms gives a very interesting account of the events which took place in the history of that parish at this time.

On the second page of the first volume of the Green's Farm's Parish Records is to be found the following entry:

"Oct. 26. Anno Dom.: 1715—A Church of Christ was then gathered & embodied at Fairfield West Parish, & ye Rev. Daniel Chapman ordained their pastor. Ye Rev. Mr. Davenport gave ye charge, he with the Rev. Mr. Webb, Mr. Shove, Mr. Cuttler & Mr. Hawley imposing hands; ye Rev. Mr. Cuttler gave ye right hand of fellowship to ye pastor, & Mr. Hawley to ye church.\*

*The Original Covenant:*

"We do in the humble sense of our deep unworthiness of an acknowledgement in ye

\* Mr. Shove was the minister of Danbury, Mr. Cuttler of Stratford, and Mr. Hawley of Ridgefield.

covenant of divine grace, & also of our inability unto the performance of ye duties of ye holy covenant, through the strength & grace of Christ alone, heartily & sincerely engage & promise in ye presence of God & his people, denying all ungodliness & worldly lusts, to live soberly, righteously & godly in this present world, solemnly devoting ourselves & our seed unto ye Lord to be his people, avouching Almighty God for our God & portion, avouching the son Jesus Christ for our only Prophet & Teacher, & for our only Priest & Propitiation, & for our only King, Lord, & law-giver; avouching ye Holy Ghost for our Sanctifier, professing our subjection unto ye gospel of Christ; & yet we will walk together in a conscionable attendance upon all the ordinance of ye Gospel, & in a member like Communion helpfulness & watchfulness unto Christ.

Signed,

Daniel Chapman, Joseph Lockwood, Jonathan Squire, Joshua Jennings, Henry Grey, Samuel Couch, John Andrews, Thomas Nash."

It appears that this record and covenant were found among the posthumous papers of the Rev. Mr. Chapman, and entered upon the book of church records July 7, 1742.

From the seven names under this interesting covenant, it would appear that the society of the West Farms was formed very much upon the same basis as the societies of Massachusetts and New Haven, viz.: by choosing seven men of good repute, whom they called the seven pillars, which idea appears to have been based upon the scriptural passage, "Wisdom hath builded her an house, she hath hewn out seven pillars." These men were elected officers of the church upon their receiving the covenant, as it was called, when they were joined by others of the congregation in like manner. This act of receiving the covenant was the first step taken towards forming an ecclesiastical society. Thomas Nash, a great grandson of Thomas Nash, one of the first settlers at New Haven, was chosen the first deacon.

The Rev. Mr. Chapman was given a salary of £70 a year.\*

1717. At the meeting of the General Assembly at Hartford, May 9th, the Hon. Nathan Gold was again chosen Deputy Governor, Judge Peter Burr an Assistant, Major John Burr and Captain Joseph Wakeman representatives from Fairfield.

Major John Burr was made one of a committee to thank the Rev. Timothy Cuttler of Stratford for the great pains he had taken in an election sermon, preached upon the opening of the Assembly, and to ask for a copy for publication.

Mr. Benjamin Fairweather was appointed a cornet player and Mr. John Taylor quartermaster for the Fairfield County troops.

\* Appendix—Genealogical.

It was made a law that every society, or parish, consisting of seventy families in the colony should keep a school eleven months in the year, and where there were fewer families not less than half the year.\*

Major Gold was appointed Chief Judge of the Superior Courts and Judge Peter Burr Judge of the Fairfield County Courts.

Difficulties and perplexities having arisen on account of persons purchasing and obtaining Indian titles to lands without the consent of the Assembly, it was enacted: "That all lands in this government are holden of the King of Great Britain as the lord of the fee," and, therefore, that no valid deed could be given from the Indians, on pretence of their being native proprietors, without the consent of the General Assembly.†

The Judges of the Superior Court were allowed £150 salary for the year.

At the fall session of the Assembly, held at New Haven, October 10th, the following law was passed:

"That all non-residents, who came to trade in the colony, should pay a custom duty of 12s. 6 d. on every hundred pounds worth of goods, & so proportionably, for all greater or lesser quantities. And that every hawker, peddler, petty chapman, or other trading person, going from town to town, either on foot or with a horse or horses, carrying wares or merchandize for sale, should appear & declare the value of his goods before some assistant or Justice of the Peace of the town he entered & pay the sum of 20s. for every hundred pounds worth of goods, one-fifth of said tax to be paid to the Assistant or Justice of the Peace & the remainder to the colony treasury.‡

It was also made a law that all stray horses, cattle, or swine should be impounded, & cried for twenty days by the constable of that town, and the next two neighboring towns, "with the age and colour of said horse or creature & all his marks natural or artificial." If no owner could be found, then the stray animal was to be sold at a public auction.

An act was passed: that in case a husband or wife went away, & remained beyond the seas over seven years, so that there was every reason to believe that the absent party was dead, a second marriage was adjudged lawful. Or in case a husband or wife sailed for some foreign port, & neither the ship or the party who had sailed in it was heard from within three years, so that there was every reason to believe said party was dead, then the living wife or husband should be esteemed single, & be able to lawfully marry again; upon consent of the Superior Courts.§

At the same time a resolution was offered in regard to evangelizing the Indians, which was referred to the next October court. In the meantime the Governor and Council were desired to consider and draw up what they judged most proper and effectual to that end.||

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1717-1725, p. 10.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 1717-1725, p. 13.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., 1717-1725, p. 23.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., 1717-1725, p. 27.

|| Col. Rec. Conn., 1717-1725, p. 31.

In October the Governor and Council, having laid before the Assembly several measures for bringing the Indians in the colony to the knowledge of the gospel, which they represented was the avowed design of those who had obtained the Connecticut patent, they proceeded to pass laws for the furtherance of this project. It was ordered:

"That care should be taken annually, by the officers of each town, to convene the Indian inhabitants & to acquaint them with the laws of the government for punishing such immoralities as they shall be guilty of;" & make them sensible, "that no exemption from the penalties of such laws lies for them any more than for others of his Majestie's subjects."

It was also made a law that any person found guilty of selling strong drink to an Indian, "either by the testimony of one person, with other strong circumstances, or by the accusation of any Indian," should pay the penalty of twenty shillings. In case the convicted person should appeal to the County Court & judgment be pronounced against him, he was then to pay the sum of forty shillings, the money to be divided equally between the informer—whether an Englishman or an Indian, & the county treasury."

As idleness was accounted "a great obstruction to the Indians receiving the gospel truth," it was thought that they might "be brought off from their pagan manner of living" if they were encouraged to make settlements in villages after the English fashion. It was, therefore, resolved:

"That measures shall be used to form villages of the natives, wherein their several families should have suitable portions of land appropriated to them, so that the said portions should descend from the father to his children, & the more to encourage them to apply themselves to husbandry & good diligence therein to their support." The Judges of the Superior Court, or any two of them, were appointed to view the said tracts of lands, visit the Indians living on them, take account of the number of their families and persons, of the quantity and quality of said lands, with other circumstances thereof, in respect of any claims made thereto, or possession held thereon, and lay a plan of the same before the General Court for their further direction; " & that they may be the better enabled to proceed in forming a village of the said Indians there, & bring them to such civil order, cohabitation & industry, as may facilitate the setting up of the gospel ministry among them, & that they view & make report of all the land formerly sequestered to said Indians."\*

At a meeting of the Governor and Council at New London, December 14th, Deputy Governor Nathan Gold of Fairfield was one of the Judges of the Superior Court appointed to this service.

It was found necessary at this time to erect suitable court-houses in the county towns of Hartford, New Haven, New London and Fairfield. It was, therefore, enacted that a quantity of ungranted land in the colony should be sold for this purpose, out of the proceeds of which £300 should

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 1716-1725, pp. 15, 31, 32-40.



be granted to erect a court-house at Fairfield. Fifty pounds was allowed for furnishing it. Two hundred pounds was also allowed to be divided among the schools of the towns.\*

At a town meeting held "December 13, Moses Dimon, Jacob Sterling, Luke Guire & Nathaniel Lyon were given liberty to erect a saw mill on the Aspetuck river in the mile of common, & to raise ye dam so high, as they shall think needful, for the improvement of said mill."†

1718. About this time a very interesting and valuable acquisition to the society of Fairfield was gained in the person of Dr. James Laborie. He settled at Stratford about 1703. For his usefulness as a surgeon of the Connecticut troops in her Majesty's service at Wood Creek, in May of 1710, he was granted by the General Assembly three shillings and four pence per day. He was appointed, with Dr. Samuel Mather, surgeon of the Connecticut troops against Port Royal in August of 1710. In March of 1711 the General Council at Hartford ordered that he should be paid forty shillings for his good services as chaplain on board the transport "Brigantine Mary," in the expedition against Port Royal. In the following August he was granted ten pounds a month in money by the General Assembly for his services in the expedition against Canada. He was also allowed "a suit of regimental clothes gratis," and one month's pay in advance. His medical diploma, dated London, 1697, which was recorded by the Clerk of the Fairfield County Court in 1713, is written in Latin, and represents him to have been the son of a celebrated physician of France. The same year the town of Stratford granted him liberty "to build a pew" in the Congregational meeting-house, where Mr. Blacklatch, a churchman of Stratford, had a pew. He left Stratford and came to reside in Fairfield in 1718.‡ The same year he purchased of "Mr. Isaac Jennings the stone house on the rocks," which, in a letter to the Secretary of the Church of England, he says "he had destined to the service of the Church of England." On the town records we find the following vote: "Dec. 16, 1718. The town grants unto Dr. Labarree ye ups of what land he enfenced ajoining to his orchard in Fairfield during ye town's pleasure."§

No sooner had Dr. Laborie settled at Fairfield than he began the labor of Christianizing the Indians in this region. He also gathered such

\* Col. Rec. Conn. 1716-1725, p. 36.

† Fairfield Town Records.

‡ History of the Protestant Episcopal Church, by Bishops Francis L. Hawks and William S. Perry, pp. 80-83.

§ Fairfield Town Records.

persons as favored the Church of England at his house on the Sabbath, and with them used the services of the Church. In this work, however, he was soon silenced by Lieutenant-Governor Nathan Gold, who used him not over tenderly; but he patiently abided his time, as will be shown hereafter.\*

The General Assembly met at Hartford, May 8th. The Hon. Nathan Gold was elected Deputy Governor, Judge Peter Burr an Assistant, and Captain Joseph Wakeman and Lieutenant John Edwards representatives from Fairfield. Justice Nathan Gold was made Chief Judge of the Superior Court. Judge Peter Burr was chosen one of the auditors for the colony treasury and Judge of the Fairfield County Courts.

At the October Assembly, held in New Haven, Fairfield was fully represented in both houses. "In consideration of the good services of the late Captain Nathaniel Seeley, formerly of Fairfield, who lost his life in the service of the country," the Assembly granted his heirs two hundred acres of land, to be taken up in the ungranted land in the counties of Fairfield or New Haven.†

Mr. John Taylor was confirmed lieutenant of the cavalry troops, and Mr. Gershom Bulkley quartermaster for Fairfield County.

Judge Peter Burr having been appointed one of four to burn £792 7s 3d. of the old bills of credit, a report was made that they had "burned & utterly destroyed them."

At a Council held at New Haven, October 27th, a petition was presented from the proprietors of the salt meadows of Pine Creek, above the new dam, and of the low meadows adjoining, called Wolf Swamp, and Reed's pond in Fairfield, that commissioners be appointed for draining said meadows, which was granted.‡

Judge Burr was by the General Council made one of a committee to settle the division line between New York and Connecticut.

Yale College having become the central educational institution of all the towns in the Connecticut colony, and having from its foundation been largely supported by Fairfield, a more particular mention of this institution has been interwoven with the educational interests of our town than might otherwise be deemed justifiable. The Rev. Joseph Webb was not only one of its founders, but one of its most active trustees during a period of nearly thirty years. He made long journeys on horseback to

\* Appendix—Genealogical.

† Col. Rec. Conn., 1716-1725. p. 71.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn. 1717-1725. p. 89.

Saybrook, Wethersfield, Hartford and New Haven, in order to meet with the other trustees and advise with them for the welfare of the college.

Lieutenant Governor Nathan Gold, Judge Peter Burr, Major John Burr and Captain John Wakeman, with many other leading Fairfielders, were appointed to important trusts connected with the affairs of the college.

At the opening of the General Assembly in May, 1716, the Rev. Timothy Woodbridge, Mr. Thomas Buckingham & other trustees placed before them the languishing condition of the College at Saybrook, & petitioned that a committee be appointed to examine into the circumstances of this unhappy state of the college. It was represented that, as Hartford was situated more in the center of the Colony & surrounded with many flourishing towns, which would undoubtedly send a large number of students, the college should be located there instead of at Saybrook. It was also thought that if it was located at Hartford quite a number of people from Massachusetts would send their sons there to be educated; & that some six or seven hundred pounds had already been subscribed, with good reason to expect other considerable donations, which would make up a thousand pounds more.

1719. "It appears that the causes attributed to the languishing condition of the Collegiate School, were not only a want of funds to carry on the institution, but a general dissatisfaction with its location at Saybrook. Many of the students were obliged to board a mile or more from the college, while those who lived near Hartford & Wethersfield, said that it was a hardship for them to be obliged to reside at Saybrook, when they could as well or better be instructed nearer home." In April of 1717, by a vote of six of the trustees, the college was removed to New Haven. Owing to the dissatisfaction of some of the trustees to this movement, an appeal was made to the General Assembly the following October, when, "A question being put whether under the present circumstances of the affairs of the Collegiate School, the reverend trustees be advised to proceed in that affair & finish the house they have built in New Haven for the entertainment of their scholars belonging to the collegiate school." It was voted "that the work should continue."

From a marginal note in the Connecticut Colonial Records the following important facts of what took place at that time in regard to the Collegiate School is to be gathered in reference to the above note:

"This passed the Lower House in the affirmative by 36 voices. Two days previously the representatives had resolved to settle the college at Middletown by a vote of 35 for that place, & 32 for New Haven. At the session of May, 1717, they had voted that it might be most for the public good & the health of the collegiate school, to have it settled in some place at or near the Connecticut river.—In May, 1718, the House considering the great dissatisfaction of the country in general, do conclude that in order to [the college] flourishing & having the support of this government, it must be settled somewhere near the Connecticut river, and that for the present & until it be so settled, the hundred pounds granted to the tutors for the year 1716, shall be divided between the tutors at Wethersfield, Saybrook & New Haven, according to the proportion of scholars under their tuition; & that it may be recommended to the reverend trustees, that the commencements be inter-

changeably one year at Wethersfield, & one year at New Haven till it be further settled to the satisfaction of this Assembly." "This was passed by 35 voices against 21."\*

In 1718 the General Assembly ordered the students to report to New Haven; but there appears to have been a considerable opposition to this order on the part of some of the students, who had placed themselves under the tuition of Mr. Elisha Williams of Wethersfield. The conciliatory acts of the legislature, however, united with the wisdom and prudence of Mr. Webb and some others of the trustees, overcame much of the opposition. The building of the college now rapidly progressed, and the hall and library were finished by commencement time. "The building was 170 feet in length & 22 feet in breadth. It was three stories in height, with a convenient & spacious hall, a library, about fifty studies in large chambers, & a kitchen." It was altogether a very fine and elegant building for those days. Mr. Henry Caner of Stratford was the builder of the college, and its cost was about one thousand pounds sterling.

Only a few days before Commencement, to the great delight of the rector, tutors and students, there arrived at Boston, from England, "a large box of books, the picture & arms of King George, & two hundred pounds sterling worth of English goods, all to the value of eight hundred pounds in our money, from Governor Yale of London."

Governor Saltonstall and his lady, the Hon. Colonel Taylor of Boston, Mr. Joseph Webb, Lieutenant-Governor Nathan Gold, Judge Peter Burr, Major John Burr, Richard Hubbell, Esq., and the whole Superior Court were present at the Commencement, which took place September 10, 1718, when, in the presence of all assembled in the new hall upon this happy occasion, the Collegiate School was named Yale College, to perpetuate the memory of its liberal and bountiful donor, Governor Elisha Yale. Colonel Taylor represented Governor Yale in an appropriate speech, after which the audience proceeded to the church, where the Commencement exercises took place. "In which office, in the first place, after prayer an oration was had by the saluting orator, James Pierpont, & then the disputations follow as usual; which concluded, the Rev. Mr. Davenport (one of the trustees & ministers of Stamford) offered an excellent oration in Latin, expressing their thanks to Almighty God & Mr. Yale under Him, for so public a favor, & so great regard to our languishing school. After which were graduated ten young men; whereupon the Hon. Gov. Saltonstall, in a Latin speech, congratulated the

\* Journals L. H., 1717-1718.



Trustees on their success & in the comfortable appearance of things with relation to their school. All which ended, the gentlemen returned to the College Hall, where they were entertained with a splendid dinner, & the ladies, at the same time were also entertained in the Library; after which they sang the four first verses in the 65th Psalm, & so the day ended.”\*

Strange to relate, the disaffected trustees and students at the same time held a Commencement at Wethersfield, upon which occasion Mr. Woodbridge and Mr. Buckingham gave degrees to those whom they graduated.

Party feeling ran high for some time about having the college at New Haven, which was eventually happily settled. The Rev. Mr. Timothy Cutler was chosen rector of the college.† Several grants of land were made by the Assembly to be sold for its benefit, and there was every prospect of its becoming a flourishing institution.

The General Assembly met at Hartford, May 14th. Hon Nathan Gold was elected Deputy Governor, Judge Peter Burr an Assistant, and Major John Burr and Captain Joseph Wakeman representatives from Fairfield.

A law was passed entitled, “An act for the better Ordering of Idle & Poor Persons in the towns of the colony,” by which all such persons were placed under the care of the selectmen of each town and their estates improved for their benefit and their families. No one in health was allowed to be idle.

Taxes having been levied from time to time for the repayment of the bills of credit issued in May and June, 1711, and October of 1713, as they should be drawn in, a further tax was levied of twopence on all taxable estates in the colony.

Judge Peter Burr was made one of a committee to examine the returned bills of credit and to burn such as were of no value.

A further act for issuing bills of credit was passed. Mr. Timothy Green of New London was instructed to procure the best paper from Boston to print them on. It was also resolved that the engraved plates, then in the possession of William Dummer, Esq., son of Jeremiah Dummer, deceased, in whose care they had been left, should be safely conveyed to New London for the use of the government. Mr. Timothy

\* Trumbull's Hist. Conn., Vol. II, pp. 22-33. Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 1716-1725, pp. 30-83.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 1716-1725, pp. 101, 159.

Green was placed under oath for the faithful discharge of printing the new bills of credit for the colony.\*

The Hon. Nathan Gold was appointed Chief Judge of the Superior Court and Judge of the Fairfield County Court, Judge Peter Burr of the County Courts, and Mr. Richard Osborn was made a Justice of the Peace for Fairfield County.

A committee was appointed by the town of Fairfield to renew the bounds of the parsonage lands within the township.

The Rev. Samuel Cook, having been chosen to succeed the late Rev. Charles Chauncey of Stratfield, the town granted him, "for his encouragement in the ministry, the whole right of the herbage of Golden Hill, both meadow & upland, during the town's pleasure."†

A long and vexed question—since 1709—in regard to land and islands at Maxumus on Green's Farms, was settled at this time by Joseph Bishop of Stamford, David Sherman of Stratfield and Edmund Lewis of Stratford, with the Couch claimants, by which the Couches gained meadow lands, " & all the islands of marsh in Compo Creek," dated September 17, 1719.‡

The General Assembly met at New Haven October 8th, when Fairfield was fully represented.

The election sermon preached before the Assembly by Rev. Timothy Cutler, Rector of Yale College, from the 92d Psalm, verse 5th, "his thoughts being very deep," was ordered to be printed.§

The taxable estates at Fairfield were valued at £21,084 2s. od.

Wednesday, April 13, of 1720, was appointed a public fast day throughout the colony.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1717-1725, p. 133.

† Fairfield Town Records.

‡ Fairfield Town Votes.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., 1717-1725, p. 148.

## CHAPTER IX

1720—1730

### CHURCH AND STATE

Green's Farms Church.—Court House.—General Assembly officers.—Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly.—Trouble with Indians.—Increased taxes on liquor.—Fast day.—Fairfield school land patent.—Contribution to Yale College.—Beliefs and customs of the Established Church of the Colony.—A summary of their persecutions.—Church of England vigorously maintained.—Opposition of the Established Church.—Laws against the Rogerenes.—Tithingmen.—Punishment for non-observance of the ecclesiastical colony laws.—Superior Courts.—Trouble with the eastern Indians.—County troops.—Fast Day.—Yale College converts to the Church of England.—Rev. George Pigot.—His letters to England.—Persecution of Church of England members.—Rev. Joseph Webb's letter.—Rev. Mr. Pigot's and Dr. Laborie's letters.—Duties of upper and lower houses of Assembly.—School money.—Judge Peter Burr elected Chief Justice.—Death of Justice Nathan Gold.—Public tax.—Land grant to heirs of Justice Nathan Gold.—Value of Fairfield estates.—Rev. Samuel Johnson.—His letters.—State and military officers.—Parliament oath taken.—Sheriff of Fairfield.—Laws for Indians.—Military sent against eastern Indians.—Signal of friendly Indians.—Massachusetts calls for military assistance.—Death of Justice Peter Burr.—Troops sent against eastern Indians.—Greenfield petitions for parish privileges.—Rev. Noah Hobart an assistant to Rev. Mr. Webb.—Captain Samuel Couch's land patent.—Thanksgiving Day.—Opening of the Church of England and location.—Laws against swearing.—Official fees.—Admission of strangers.—Northwest parish (Greenfield) embody in church and state.—Covenant.—Rev. John Goodsell.—Church officers.—How to warn new societies.—Value of Fairfield estates.—Greenfield meeting-house.—Growth of the Church of England.—Taxation without representation.—Rev. Dr. Johnson's letters.—Petition of Church of England officers.—Petition granted.—Northwest parish named Greenfield.—Death of George I.—Accession of George II. celebrated at New Haven.—House of Correction.—Earthquake and its effects.—Lottery evils.—Churchmen persecuted.—Mr. Caner's letters.—Public notifications.—Probate Court of Stamford.—Lotteries forbidden.—Viciousness of the Indians.—Reading petitions to be made a parish.—Fairfield County enlarged.—Requisites of a freeholder.—Reading made a parish.—Official fees.—Freeman's rights.

1720. THE inhabitants of Green's Farms, or the west parish, had the satisfaction this year of seeing their meeting-house finished. It had previously been a rude structure, but now it was finished with galleries and seats. Ensign Rumsey was invited "to sit under the desk, where he used to sit . . . & that Capt. Samuel Couch, John Lockwood & Lieutenants Nash & Andrews should sit under the desk on the west side."

A commodious court house was also erected on the Fairfield Abnury Green and situated behind the present Town House.

At a meeting of the General Assembly at Hartford, May 12th, Judge Nathan Gold was again elected Deputy Governor and Chief Judge of the Superior Courts in Fairfield County, and Major John Burr and Captain Samuel Couch representatives from Fairfield.

Major John Burr was made one of the public treasury auditors. Judge Peter Burr was chosen Judge of the County Court.

Major John Burr, with four others, was appointed to receive and destroy the old bills of credit which had been returned to the treasury.

An act was passed for forming the lower house or house of representatives to the General Assembly, that when the new State House was finished at Hartford they should meet at eight o'clock in the morning on election day in the chamber set apart for them, and choose a speaker and clerk for the session.

It appears that since the Treaty of Utrecht, in 1713, there had existed more or less ill-will between the French of Canada and their Indian allies, which caused frequent alarms along the frontier towns of the New England colonies. The English attributed the existing troubles to the influence of one Father Sebastian Ralle and the French Jesuits, while the French Canadians laid all the blame to the ever encroaching spirit of the English in acquiring territory by unlawful means.\* The Indian depredations became at this time more and more alarming, so that the inhabitants of Danbury made an appeal to the Governor and Council for protection. They represented that Chicken, living in Fairfield County near Danbury, had received two belts of wampum from Indians west of the Hudson, and asking for permission to come and live within the Connecticut colony. Major John Burr, with three other gentlemen, were forthwith ordered to visit "the Potatuck & Wiantinuck & Poquannuck Indians, & cause the said Chicken, to whom the belts & message were sent, to disclose all he & his tribe had learned of the design of their Indian visitors, & to order them to attend the next meeting of the General Assembly." Major Burr was requested "to return home by way of Danbury, & to quiet the inhabitants there & those near them, of their apprehensions of danger from the Indians."†

The General Court met October 13th at New Haven, when Deputy

\* Hollister's History of Connecticut, Vol. I., pp. 382-389.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 1716-1725, p. 203.



Governor Gold, Peter Burr as Assistant, and Captain Joseph Wakeman and Captain Samuel Couch were present.

The alarming increase of intemperance in the colony led to renewed effort to suppress it, and at this time a tax of fifteen pounds was levied on every hogshead of rum imported into the colony, one-tenth part of which should be paid to the naval officers and the remainder to the colony treasurer. Any evasion of this law led to the confiscation of the liquor.

Wednesday, April 19th, was ordered by proclamation to be set apart as a day of public fasting throughout the colony.

At the sitting of this court the Fairfield members were so fortunate as to obtain a patent for their school lands; which land was "to be improved for the use & behoof of a Grammar School to be kept in said town, & for no other use whatsoever." As no particular persons were named to whom the patent should be granted, the Court ordered "that a patent be granted to the Hon. Nathan Gold Esqr., Peter Burr Esqr., Major John Burr, Capt. Joseph Wakeman, Capt. Moses Dimon, & Lieut. Jonathan Sturges, all of Fairfield, & their heirs at the common law, to hold the said six hundred acres of land for the use aforesaid."\*

It was voted that as a suitable dwelling-house was needed for the use of the rector of Yale College, a collection should be made in July in all the towns in the colony for this purpose, of which Fairfield paid her share.

In order to comprehend the history of the ecclesiastical affairs of Fairfield at this time, we must turn to the earliest records of the colony. One of the first steps taken by a colony in beginning a settlement was to enter into a mutual covenant "in the presence of God, to walk together in all His ways, according as He was pleased to reveal Himself in His blessed word of truth."

Before a company was allowed to enter upon the work of a new settlement, the General Court required that they should prove themselves capable of colonizing a town and maintaining a clergyman. The necessary number to form a church, it was thought, "should be of no greater number than may ordinarily meet together conveniently in one place, nor ordinarily fewer than may conveniently carry on church work." Those who entered into covenant for the maintenance of a church were not admitted as church members, nor allowed the privilege of partaking of the Lord's Supper, or to present their children in baptism until they

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 1716-1725, p. 243.

had made a public profession of a change of heart. Each parish was composed of a body of members independent and separate from all other parishes, which elected and ordained its own officers. The duties of the officers were to admit, govern, censure and expel its members, as well as to make such laws as should be for the benefit of the church. They acknowledged the necessity of synods or general councils in weighty matters, but regarded the discipline of every church to be vested "in the church alone," and not subject to any outside influence. For these reasons they were called Congregationalists.

The earliest parishes generally supported two ministers, one called a pastor and the other a teacher. There were one or more ruling elders, as well as deacons, who shared with the pastor and teacher the government and discipline of the church. "The office of the pastor was to work upon the wills and affections of his people, that his hearers might be led to love & praise the truth; while that of the teacher was to expound the doctrines of christianity, & particularly to explain the scriptures." The office of the latter was at an early date merged into that of the pastor.

Their ministers were men of education, many of whom were graduates of Oxford and Cambridge in England. Some of them were men of distinction, who were wealthy and gave largely of their means towards the support of their congregations. Voluntary contributions, however, were taken up every Sabbath for some years for the maintenance of ministers. In 1644 the commissioners of the United Colonies met at Hartford and passed a law: "That those who were taught in the word in the several plantations should be called together, that every man voluntarily set down what he is willing to allow to that end, &c., & if any man refuse to pay a meet proportion, that then he be rated by authority in some just & equal way, & if after this any man withhold or delay due payment the civil power is to be exercised as in other just debts."

The ministers were not at first ordained by other ministers, according to the custom of the present day, but by the officers of the congregations by whom they were elected; and when without officers, by private members laying on of hands. Each minister was a layman to all the world but to his congregation. They were not regarded as ministers before their election over a congregation or after their resignation.

The office of the ruling elder was to maintain the discipline of the church, to watch the walk and conversation of its members, to admin-

ister to the spiritual and temporal needs of the sick, and in the absence of the pastor to expound the scriptures, and to exhort and pray with the congregation. The deacons conducted the prudential affairs of the church and provided for the poor. All the officers of the church were set apart to their trusts with the most solemn services.

In religious views our ancestors were Calvinists. The doctrines of original sin, total depravity, election and predestination, particular redemption, effectual calling and perseverance of saints, formed the basis of many lengthy and most earnest sermons. They aimed to control society by the discipline of the Mosaic law.

Finding, as they concluded, no scriptural ground for calling a house of worship a church, they adopted the name of Meeting-House instead. And as only church members were allowed to hold civil offices, that they might be controlled by true wisdom and righteousness in all their acts, their public meetings and elections were held in the Meeting-House. It was the custom for many years in Fairfield to hold a town meeting immediately after the week-day prayer meeting, which was regularly appointed on Wednesday evening by a vote of the town.

The first churches were necessarily of a rude and simple style of architecture, and for many years were stiff and bare of ornament of any kind. In the place of the high altar of the Romanist overshadowed with cherubims, rose a pulpit which elevated the head of the preacher almost to the ceiling. When in the course of time the Meeting House required more room than the members could conveniently find within its walls, galleries were introduced. And many undoubtedly remember the two boxes in each corner over the main entrance above the galleries, which were set apart for the sons and daughters of Africa. Pews or slips and square sittings with high backs took the place of the first long benches without backs.\*

It was the custom of Puritan ministers to explain passages in the Bible as they read them to the people. Not to do so was to bring reproach upon their calling, it being regarded as conforming to the old usages of the churches they had forsaken. Their desire was to make plain the word of God to all men. To read a chapter or psalm from the Bible without explanation was called *dumb-reading*.

The act of exhorting the people was called *prophecy*. Officers and private members of churches were called upon to prophesy. It was the

\* Palfrey, History of New England.

custom when a neighboring clergyman officiated, after the singing of a psalm, for the ruling elder of the congregation to say: "If this present brother hath any word of exhortation, let him say on." And the exhortation was called prophecy.

Our forefathers believed in early infant baptism. They were not wholly able to shake off the customs of the religion in which they had been trained, consequently they were much more strict than the Congregationalists of the present day. Palfrey says: "Their children were baptized in the meeting-house but a few days after their birth, & sometimes the very day following. If a child was born on the Sabbath it was baptized on that day." Great care was taken of the children of their slaves. The church records in Fairfield, Green's Farms and the neighboring towns offer many interesting proofs of the above statements.

During the communion service the fashion of sitting while receiving the elements was observed. This was thought to be the most fitting posture, and the idea seems to have originated from the custom of the Jews at the Passover feast, and because our Saviour is represented as sitting while he instituted the Sacrament. Another reason for this posture was to do away with eucharistical adoration.

Of forms our ancestors had a real horror. A surplice was to them but the invention of the Evil One. The cross, which but reminds us of the sufferings of the Redeemer of the World, was allowed no place within or without their houses of worship, lest some ignorant soul break the second commandment by bowing down to it, and thus commit the sin of idolatry.

The Lord's Day, or Sabbath, was a day of great solemnity among our ancestors. Their Sabbath commenced at six o'clock on Saturday evening and continued until six o'clock on Sunday evening. The big oven in the kitchen was opened for an array of bread, meats, cakes and pies on Saturday morning to be baked, for no cooking was allowed on the Sabbath until the services of the day were over. A cold lunch was served in the place of a dinner. But upon their return home from the afternoon service they made up for any deficit in that respect by a bountiful hot supper. Those who came from Stratfield, Greenfield and Green's Farms, before those places were incorporated as separate parishes, rode to church on horseback, and carried their lunches in their saddle-bags. The children were taught their Sunday-school lessons on Saturday afternoon. The little ones used the short Assembly Catechism and the older



children the long Westminster Assembly Catechism. They were also required to commit to memory one or more passages of scripture, besides a hymn or psalm, as well as to remember the texts on the Sabbath and learn them by heart after church was over.

One of the most pleasing recollections of their Sabbath was the noon gatherings in the summer of neighbors and friends who lived long distances apart, under the shade trees of the Meeting-House Green, where in groups scattered here and there friendly greetings were exchanged and the repose of the Sabbath enjoyed until the roll of the drum called them into the church for the afternoon service. In the winter they gathered in the Sabbath Day house and in the houses of hospitable relatives and friends.\*

The young men were not allowed to stand at the entrance of the meeting-house to comment on those who came to church, and to make public their want of reverence for the place and for those who entered within. The delinquent, who so far forgot the honor due to the house of God and to his betters, was ordered into church by the sentinels on duty, and if he forgot himself in church he was melted into propriety by the fixed gaze of the minister, the ruling elders and the deacons, as well as the constables, the grand jurors and tithing men, whose duty it was to watch for such offenders.

The effort made by the Church of England in the reign of Edward the Sixth to restore the simple ritual of her ancient church, which her bishops and clergy declared to St. Augustine in the fifth century they had received through Lyons from the Apostle St. John, was the first glimmer of light which preceded the Reformation in England. To restore the old ritual, not to destroy, was the aim of those good men who sacrificed life and fortune in order to throw off the power and errors of the Church of Rome.

The name of Protestant, which originated at the diet of Spires in Germany, when a protest was raised against further innovations on the part of Rome until the convocation of an Ecumenical council could be

\* Many comments in both religious and secular publications are made now-a-days about the solemnity of the Puritan Sabbath; but the worldings of to-day, who know nothing of the peace and happiness of a New England Sabbath are incapable of forming any idea of the happiness of keeping a hallowed Lord's Day, with its sweet communion with God, nature and loved friends. It "hallowed all the week to come," and made life's burdens lighter. There was nothing lost in keeping God's commandment "Thou shalt keep the Sabbath Day holy," but a peace and joy was gained, which comes only in obeying this holy will.—AUTHOR.

called, extended to all classes opposed to the new dogmas of the Church of Rome.

In the reign of Queen Elizabeth the Protestants were divided into two parties, those who favored the ritual order of the Church of England, which had been adopted in the reign of Edward the Sixth, and those who desired to cast aside any ritual whatever, in order to carry out what they conceived to be a purer and more simple form of worship. The desire of the latter was not at first to separate from the Church of England, but to gain pre-eminence in ecclesiastical power. In 1567, however, this separation took place, and those who seceded from the church were first called Separatists. The name of Puritan also was given them, from their rigid views in regard to a religious life, as well as to their strict observance of the Sabbath. This name was first applied to those small bodies of Protestants who fled from England to the Continent during the reign of the Bloody Mary. Under the reign of Queen Elizabeth they were treated with great rigor, which but alienated their affections and caused them to cling all the more closely to their religious views. They had hoped for brighter days when King James the First, who had been partly educated under Presbyterian influence, ascended the throne. But this hope faded away under the severity of the persecutions he caused them to endure. The marriage of Charles the First to Henrietta Maria, the beautiful daughter of Henry the Great of France, was an offence in the eyes of the Puritans, and under her influence, and that of Archbishop Laud's mistaken zeal and want of gentleness for the interests of the Church of England, they turned their thoughts towards America. Here they hoped to establish a church in which they might worship their Maker without restraint from king or prelate.

At the present day we must look back upon all ecclesiastical bodies of that age as lacking in those great essentials of Christianity embodied in the new commandment of our Redeemer. "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." The age in which Puritanism had its rise was one of great religious intolerance. Whichever ecclesiastical body was in the ascendancy for the time being was chronicled with such persecutions towards those who differed from them in religious thought as cannot give any one of them an exalted place in history as having been the possessors of those lovable traits which our Saviour left as a guide upon the inspired pages of His Holy Word.

The reign of Bloody Mary was marked with most cruel persecutions

towards all who differed from the prescribed views of the Romanists. No less than three hundred Protestants suffered by fire at the stake, among whom were Archbishop Cranmer, Bishops Latimer, Hooker and Ridley.

The reign of Elizabeth, while much more mild than that of Mary towards those who differed with her in religious beliefs, was harsh and intolerant towards the Puritans. Many were imprisoned, some were banished and others were hanged. The Queen declared: "that she would maintain the religion that she was crowned in, & that she was baptized in; & would suppress the Papistical religion that it should not grow; but that she would root out Puritanism, & the favorers thereof." It was during the latter part of her reign that the Rev. John Robinson and his devoted flock fled to Leyden in Holland, and who from the repeated efforts they made to leave England at this time, and in the early part of the reign of James the First, and finally to seek a home in the wilderness of America, have most justly been called *The Pilgrim Fathers* of New England.

The severity which characterized the reign of James the First, who professed even to hate the name of Puritan, caused many of those who bore this dread name to flee to Holland and finally to America.

The harsh measures pursued by Archbishop Laud in the reign of Charles the First, when the Puritans were fined, whipped, pilloried and imprisoned, is most saddening to contemplate. The barbarities inflicted upon Leighton, and afterwards upon Prynne, Bostwick and Burton, although accused of publishing schismatic and seditious libels, are without excuse.

But when the Puritans gained the ascendancy all righteous souls to this day have felt a chill of horror run through every vein when the mild, vacillating Charles First, through the power of the victorious Cromwell and the Puritans, was brought to the cruel block. Burnet says of this unhappy monarch: "He was much inclined to a middle way between Protestants & Papists, by which he lost the one without gaining the other."

The revenge of the persecuted Prynne, when he gained power over the aged Archbishop Laud, finds no excuse among Christian writers. The banishment of that good man, Roger Williams, who appears to have risen above the persecuting spirit of the age in which he lived, is a blot upon the historic pages of Massachusetts. The banishment also of so

afflicted and unfortunate a lady as Mrs. Ann Hutchinson, by which she and her household became the victims of savage rage, was an act of intolerance lamentable in the extreme. The persecutions endured by the Quakers and the Baptists at the hands of our ancestors history cannot overlook.

These instances have been recalled lest some of us attribute to our forefathers a greater degree of Christian charity towards those who differed from them in religious thought, which, in reality, they did not possess. At the same time we must recall the severity of the persecutions they had endured in England, and the age in which they lived.

In contrast to the gay Cavaliers of the court of King Charles, the Puritans assumed an austerity of dress and religious deportment which became a subject of jest among the court attendants. The Cavaliers, on the other hand, "affected a gaiety & freedom of manner inconsistent with Puritanical ideas, & in order to show their contempt of Puritanical austerity, often carried their convivial humor to an indecent excess." The name of Puritan, therefore, became a term of reproach to those bodies of Christians who were called Independents, Presbyterians and Brownists or Congregationalists. The Puritans looked with equal contempt upon the Cavaliers, whom they regarded as an abandoned set of profligates, as many of them in truth were. The Puritans accepted the Bible only as their guide, and established church law and discipline according to the light which they received from its sacred pages. In dress and manners as well as in church decoration they aimed to be the opposite of the Church of Rome and the Church of England. Reform was their watchword, and everything was reformed but the heart of man, which leaves in the history of each century traces of its original father Adam.

There are many who are too much inclined to cavil at the idea that the Pilgrim Fathers and the Puritans sought the shores of New England purely to escape the religious persecutions of the mother country. That there were many adventurers who joined them from time to time, who were often a source of great discomfort as well as detriment in keeping peace at home and with the Indians, is a well-established historical fact. But no one can deny that those of Robinson's congregation, who settled at Plymouth, the Rev. Mr. John Warcham and his congregation, of whom the historian, Trumbull, says, "this was an honorable body," and the congregation of the famous preacher, Thomas Hooker, fled to New England purely and solely that they might escape from the perse-



cutions of the intolerant religious spirit inflicted upon them in England. From these three congregations the earliest settlers of Fairfield separated. Some of them were among that memorable company of about one hundred, men, women and children, who left Cambridge with the Rev. Mr. Hooker and his assistant, Mr. Stone, and who made their way through the trackless wilderness to Wethersfield, Windsor and Hartford with no guide but their compass, no covering but the canopy of heaven and the overshadowing forest, "nor any lodgings but those which simple nature afforded them."

To vigorously maintain their ecclesiastical views the Pilgrim Fathers and those of the Massachusetts Bay Colony were influenced at an early date to make the Congregational Church the established church of those settlements. Connecticut followed their example. Therefore, the foothold gained by the Church of England at Stratford and Fairfield at this period caused great excitement.

1721. The General Assembly met at Hartford May 11th, when the Hon. Nathan Gold was elected Deputy Governor and Chief Judge of the Superior Court, Judge Peter Burr an Assistant, and Major John Burr and Captain Joseph Wakeman representatives from Fairfield. Judge Peter Burr was made one of the treasury auditors and Judge of the Fairfield County Court, and Mr. Richard Osborn Justice of the Peace for the county.

It was thought advisable at this time to make more stringent laws in regard to the observance of the Sabbath, and also to rigorously maintain the worship of the Congregational Church of the colony, as well as to prevent the Church of England or any denomination from gaining a foothold among them. There was a growing tendency, however, towards favoring these services. Therefore the General Assembly proceeded to pass the following laws:

*"Be it enacted by the Governor, Council & Representatives, in General Court assembled, & by the authority of the same, That whatsoever person shall not duly attend to the public worship of God on the Lord's day in some congregation by law allowed, unless hindered by sickness or otherwise necessarily detained, & to be therefore convicted before an assistant or Justice of the Peace, either by confession or sufficient witnesses, or being presented to such authority for such neglect, shall not be able to prove to the satisfaction of the said authority that he or she has attended the said worship, shall incur the penalty of five shillings money for every such offence.*

*"Be it also further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That whatsoever person shall go from his or her place of abode on the Lord's Day, unless to or from the public worship of God, attended or to be attended upon by such person in some place by law allowed for*

that end, or unless it be on some other work necessary then to be done. & be therefore convicted as aforesaid, shall incur the penalty of five shillings money for every such offence.

"*Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That whatsoever persons shall on the Lord's day, under any pretence whatsoever, assemble themselves in any of the public meeting houses provided in any town, or parish or society, for the use of the minister & congregation of such town, parish or society, without the leave or allowance of such minister & congregation first had obtained, & be therefore convicted as aforesaid, every such person or persons shall incur the penalty of twenty shillings, money, for every such offence.

"*Be it also enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That whatsoever persons shall be guilty of any rude & unlawful behavior on the Lord's day, either in word or action, by clamorous discourse, shouting, hallooing, screaming, running, riding, singing, dancing, jumping, winding horns, or the like, in any house or place so near to any public meeting house for divine worship, that those who meet there may be disturbed by such rude & profane behaviour, & being thereof convicted in like manner, shall incur the penalty of forty shillings, money, for every such offence.

"*It is further enacted,* That whatsoever person shall be present at any unlawful meeting, or be guilty of going from the place of his or her abode, & unlawful behaviour on the Lord's day, contrary to this act, & being therefore convicted & fined as aforesaid, & shall refuse & neglect to pay his or her fine, or tender to the assistant, or justice of the peace, before whom such person shall stand convicted, such security as the said authority shall judge sufficient for the payment of it, within the space of one week after such conviction, such assistant or Justice of the peace shall immediately cause such convicted person to be sent to the house of correction, there to lye at his or her own charge & be employed in labor, not exceeding a month for any one offence, & less as the offence is, at the discretion of the judge; the profit of such labor to be to the town treasury, except paying the charge of prosecuting the delinquents; & the sheriff of the county to see that said delinquent do so labor as aforesaid.\*

At the meeting of the Assembly in New Haven, October 12th, Mr. Jonathan Sturges acted as representative in place of Major John Burr.

For further good government of the towns a law was passed:

\* It appears that about this time there arose in the Colony a sect called Rogerenes, so named from one John Rogers of New London, who set out to be something more than a common man. With a party of men and women calling themselves Singing Quakers he went through the Colony singing and dancing, proclaiming "how their lips dropped with myrrh and honey." From the state records the following report is given of them. "It seemed to be their study and delight to violate the Sabbath, insult magistrates and ministers and to trample on all laws and authority human and divine. They would come on the Lord's Day into the most public assemblies nearly quite naked, and in time of public worship in a wild and tumultuous manner, crying out and charging the most venerable minister with lies and false doctrine. They would labor on the Lord's Day, drive carts by places of public worship, and from town to town, apparently on purpose to disturb Christians and Christian assemblies. They seemed to take pains to violate the laws in the presence of officers, that they might be complained of, and have an opportunity to insult the laws, the court and all civil authority." †

† Trumbull's Hist. Conn., Vol. 2., p. 38.  
Col. Rec. Conn., 1717-1725, p. 166.

"That each town at their annual meetings in December shall choose two or more Tything Men in each parish or society for divine worship within said town, who shall forthwith be sworn to a faithful discharge of the work hereby allotted to them, or if they neglect or refuse to take said oath, shall pay a fine of forty shillings to the treasury of said town, to be recovered in a manner as other fines."

It was also made a law:

"That each of the grand-jury-men & the said tithing-men & constables of each town shall carefully inspect the behaviour of all persons on the Sabbath or Lord's Day, especially between the meetings of divine worship on the said day, whether in the place of such public meeting or elsewhere, & due presentment make of any profanation of the worship of God on the Lord's-day, or on any day of public fast or thanksgiving; or breach of Sabbath which they or any of them shall see or discover any person to be guilty of, to the next assistant or justice of the peace; who is hereby impowered, upon such presentment to him made, to cause such offender to be brought before him, & upon due conviction of such offence, to impose a fine upon him to the treasury, not exceeding five shillings in money."

Each grand-juryman, tything-man or constable was allowed two shillings *per diem*, spent in prosecuting such offenders:

—"to be paid for the person offending, or by the parents or master of such person; & upon neglect or refusal of payment thereof, or of other charge of such offenders or delinquents prosecution, such assistant or justice of the peace shall grant execution for the same against such person or his parent or master."

"*Provided*, That no person prosecuted on this act shall be charged with more than for one person prosecuting him for such offence."

"*Provided*, That all presentments for any of the aforementioned offences be one month after the commission thereof."

"That whensover any person shall be lawfully convicted of any offence against this act, or any other act provided for the punishing of any profanation of the Sabbath, or of any disturbance to any congregation allowed for the worshipping of God, during the time that they are assembling for, & attending on such worship, & shall, being fined for such offence, neglect or refuse to pay the said fine, or present some estate on which execution for said fine may be levied, such court, or assistant, or justice of peace, before whom such conviction shall be had, are hereby impowered to sentence such offender to be publicly whipped with any number of stripes not exceeding twenty, respect being had to the nature & aggravation of such offence."

"*Provided*, & it is hereby provided & enacted, That if any children or servants, not of the age of discretion, shall be convicted of any of the offences mentioned in this act, they shall be punished therefore in such manner & way as is provided for their punishment when convicted of lying, & in no other way. And also, that no execution shall be served on any parent or master, by virtue of this act, for the fault of any child or servant, within one month next after such child or servant shall be convicted of such fault."

Ten shillings was the fine required for the first offence of lying, and if the offending party was not able to pay ten shillings, he was obliged to sit in the stocks, at the discretion of the Court or Magistrate, *in some place not exceeding three hours*. For the second offence a fine of twenty shillings was required, or the delinquent was to receive upon the naked body twenty stripes and no more; for the third offence forty shillings, and if unable to pay this sum, then not more than thirty stripes was to be inflicted upon the

naked body. If the habit was generally continued in, the fine was increased ten shillings for each offence, or with five or six stripes more than formerly, the stripes not exceeding forty at any time.\*

The Assembly at this time levied a tax of fourpence on every gallon of rum imported into the colony, and also passed a law: "That what shall be gained by the imposts on rum for two years next coming shall be applied for the building of a rector's house for Yale College."

The time of holding the Superior Courts in the county towns was changed. The last Tuesday of February and the last Tuesday in August was set apart for holding them annually.

It appears that the berries of Bayberry were used for making tallow candles, and, in consequence, for every peck gathered before they were fully grown and ripe a fine was imposed of 2s. 6d. The 10th of September was set for gathering them.

1722. At the meeting of the General Assembly at Hartford, May 10th, Justice Nathan Gold was re-elected Deputy Governor and Mr. Robert Silliman acted as representative in place of Captains Joseph Wakeman and Moses Dimon.

Captain Joseph Wakeman was made one of a committee to confer with Governor Shute of Massachusetts in regard to the Connecticut militia being called out to assist in suppressing the depredations of the eastern Indians. It was voted that the arms and artillery of the towns should be repaired and made ready for service. And that colonels and lieutenant-colonels should be appointed over the county regiments. It was represented that such store of ammunition as the law required was wanting in the magazines. The majors of each town were requested to inspect the military stores and to take care that such as were needed be supplied.

Mr. Gershom Bulkley of Fairfield was confirmed cornet player and Mr. Thomas Hill quartermaster of the Fairfield cavalry troops. Fairfield was soon after supplied with one barrel of gunpowder for the public service.

The taxable estates of Fairfield were valued at £23,504 3s. 6d.

Mr. Timothy Green was ordered in November to print four thousand pounds of bills of credit.

Wednesday the 10th of April was ordered to be proclaimed a day of public fasting.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 1716-1725, p. 277.



This year the Congregational Church of Christ at Fairfield was presented with two silver cups to be used at the Communion. One of these cups was the gift of E. Wyncoop and the other of Jonathan Sturges, Esq.

Yale College had become at this time in every way a flourishing institution with a resident rector, two tutors and about forty scholars. Contributions of books and money from private and public sources had enriched it, so that it was fast acquiring distinction. The Rev. Mr. Cutler was popular and beloved by the students. But to the great surprise and mortification of the trustees and the Congregational Church, he became a convert to the Church of England. In his convictions he was joined by Mr. Brown, one of the tutors, a Mr. Johnson of West Haven and a Mr. Whetmore of East Haven. It was also found that these gentlemen intended making a voyage to England to receive Episcopal orders.

Those persons who favored the Church of England in Fairfield were this year greatly cheered at the arrival from England of the Rev. George Pigot, who was sent to this country by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. He took up his residence at Stratford, and for the most part divided his time between Stratford and Fairfield.

Dr. Laborie had already taken the first step towards forming a parish, and he was now particularly encouraged by the arrival of a settled clergyman at Stratford.

The condition of the small bands of the Church of England people in these parts was reported by Mr. Pigot to the Secretary of the Society in England soon after his arrival in this country. His first report is dated August 20, 1722, in which he states that the President of Yale College, the Rev. Timothy Cutler, and five more belonging to the college were "determined to declare themselves professors of the Church of England."

In a letter to the Secretary of the Society, dated October 3, 1722, Mr. Pigot wrote:

"I shall before Christmas, according to appointment, preach thrice in Fairfield, which is eight miles distant from my abode—as often at Ripton, at the same distance—in which places I have & shall take care to improve the festivals of our church to such purposes, & where these do not intervene, on other week days.

On the fourth of last month, at the desire of the President, I repaired to the Commencement of Yale College, in New Haven, where in the face of the whole country the aforesaid gentleman, & six others, hereafter named, declared themselves in this wise, that they could not longer keep out of the Communion of the Holy Catholic Church, & that

some of them doubted of the validity, & the rest were persuaded of the invalidity of Presbyterian ordination in opposition to Episcopal. The gentlemen fully persuaded thereof are the five following, viz.: Mr. Cutler, president of Yale College; Mr. Brown, tutor to the same; Mr. Elliot, pastor of Killingworth; Mr. Johnson, pastor of West Haven, & Mr. Wetmore. The two gentlemen who seemed to doubt are Mr. Hart, pastor of East Guilford, & Mr. Whittlesy, pastor of Wallingford. These seven gave in their declaration in writing, & at the same time two more, & these pastors of great note gave their assent, of whom the one, Mr. Bulkley of Colchester, declared Episcopacy to be *jure divino*, & the other, Mr. Whiting, of some remote town, gave his opinion for moderate Episcopacy.

Newtown, Ripton & Fairfield do intend to petition the Honorable Society for Church ministers. I now inform you Sir of what obstructions I met with in my ministry, & they are several, viz.: that of Lieut. Governor Nathan Gold, who is a most inveterate slanderer of our Church, charging her with popery, apostacy, & atheism,—who makes it his business to hinder the conversion of all whom he can, by threatening them with his authority—& who as a judge of the court here, disfranchises men merely for being Churchmen; also that of living under a *charter* government, in which there is not the least mention of ecclesiastical affairs; so that they have boldly usurped to themselves, & insultingly imposed on the necks of others, the power of taxing & disciplining all persons whatsoever, for the grandeur & support of their self-created ministers; also, that of lying slanders, continually against our Mother, as if she were a persecutress, & gaped for the tenth of the country's increase, & though these deceivers pretend a firm attachment to the illustrious house of Hanover, yet they are frequently oppugning the King's supremacy."\*

In the same letter he asks for Common Prayer Books and Catechisms. From this letter it would appear that the prosperity of the Church of England was advancing, even under all the adverse circumstances against its gaining a foothold in the colony.

Pequonnock on the one side had taken away a large number from the Prime Society, while Green's Farms on the other side had also drawn away a goodly number. The northwest parish, or Greenfield, had begun to show signs of her ability to support a minister of her own, and Lonetown, or Reading, was also whispering in the same strain. No wonder, therefore, independent of the strong prejudices which many entertained against the Church of England, that the Congregational elders and deacons set out with a resolute determination to prevent, if possible, any further drain upon their congregation.

It is not always possible for an historian to do justice to historical facts, especially where differences of religious opinions are to be laid

\* Dr. Trumbull states there exists a tradition that Governor Saltonstall, who well understood the doctrine of the Church of England, became the champion of the Congregational and Presbyterian churches; and that he argued the point of controversy—which appears to have been the validity of Congregational ordination, with Mr. Cutler before the Commencement. It appears that from Gov. Saltonstall's argument two of the gentlemen who had favored the Church of England declared themselves satisfied with their early views. Trumbull's Hist. Conn., Vol. 2, p. 33.

before the public, without incurring displeasure either on one side or the other; nevertheless, such facts as are based upon ungarnished truth can never offend truth seekers. The stormy epoch in the history of Fairfield, which at this time roused bitter feelings and sad misunderstandings, will, therefore, be faithfully and impartially related.

An idea of the state of religious feeling in Fairfield about the time of the Rev. Mr. Pigot's arrival may be gathered from the following letter, written by Mr. Webb to the Rev. Dr. Cotton Mather, and dated October 3, 1722:

"The axe is laid to the root of our civil & sacred enjoyments, & a doleful gap opened for trouble & confusion in our churches. The Churchmen are wonderfully lifted up. It is a very dark day for us, & we need piety, prayers & counsel. We need help of some good arguments used by those who are skilled in controversy, & have acted well therein. They will, I conclude, allege that the ordinations among us were Presbyterian, because several pastors in our colony, in the more ancient days of it, were ordained by laymen, & those pastors so ordained have acted in the latter ordinations among us. This the Churchmen among us improve, by a fling now & then about the 'leather mitten' that was laid on the head of the Rev. Mr. Chauncey of Stratford, many years since deceased, by one of the brethren acting at his ordination.\*

What led those eminent men, who first settled this country, to allow laymen to act in such affairs is not for me to say. But what I would say in this case is, how shall we be able to justify ourselves if this article be insisted on by our antagonists? The notion of these ordinations by laymen, I fear, do us more damage than all the arguments that can be brought for the necessity of Episcopal ordination. Our condition I look upon as very deplorable & sad. Please to communicate the contents of my letter to your venerable & honorable father, & to as many of the ministers of Boston, &c., as you may judge meet. And let me [though unworthy] have, as soon as may be, what comfort, light & strength is needed in our sad circumstances, from as many of you, as will please to engage in the cause. Thus desiring an interest in your prayers for us, I subscribe myself,

Rev. & honored Sir,

Your humble servant,

JOSEPH WEBB.†

In an address delivered by President Woolsey before Yale College on the 14th of August, 1850, he thus speaks of Mr. Cutler and the other ministers who had declared themselves in favor of the Church of England:

"That these gentlemen were honest in their persuasion seems undoubted; & indeed, under the circumstances in which they found themselves, the first champions of an unwelcome theory in the Colony, & dissenters from the church order there established, there was every motive for dishonest or timid men to conceal their opinions. There seems to be little doubt that they studied together the points of difference between the Church

\* It appears that Elder Brinsmaid of Long Hill was present at this ordination and forgetting to remove his leather mitten, laid his gloved hand upon the head of the Rev. Mr. Chauncey.

† Bishop Hawkes and Perry's Hist. of Protestant Episcopal Church.

of England & other sects which had separated from it, that broke in the Union of the college wrought this change in their sentiment. A departure for the better mind of the Colony, & of so many at once, from the views of the New England churches, & a return to that church from which the pilgrims had fled into the wilderness, filled the minds of men with apprehension & gloom,—feelings which extended into the neighboring Colony. I suppose that greater alarm would scarcely be awakened now if the Theological Faculty of the College were to declare for the Church of Rome, vow their belief in transubstantiation, & pray to the Virgin Mary."

At a meeting of the trustees in New Haven in October, the following resolutions were passed:

"That the trustees, in faithfulness to the trust reposed in them, do excuse the Rev. Mr. Cutler from all further services as rector of Yale College: That the trustees accept of the resignation which Mr. Brown hath made as tutor. And that all such persons as shall hereafter be elected to the office of rector, or tutor in this college, shall before they accept before the trustees, declare their assent to the confession of faith owned and assented to by the elders & managers of the churches in the Colony of Connecticut, assembled by delegates at Saybrook Sept. 9, 1708: & confirmed by act of General Assembly: & shall particularly give satisfaction to them, of the soundness of their faith in opposition to Arminian & prelatical corruptions, or of any other dangerous consequence to the purity & peace of our churches."\*

Soon after the dismissal of Mr. Cutler from the College he, with Mr. Brown and Mr. Johnson, went to England to receive Episcopal ordination. They were received by the vice-chancellors of the English universities with marked attention and respect. From both universities Mr. Cutler had conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity, and Mr. Johnson that of Master of Arts. Upon their return from England as missionaries from the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, Dr. Cutler settled at Boston and Mr. Samuel Johnson at Stratford and Fairfield. Mr. Brown died not long after he had received orders. Mr. Whetmore also went to England, and after receiving orders settled at Rye, in the province of New York. "These," says Dr. Trumbull, "were the first of the clergy who declared for Episcopacy in Connecticut, & were very much the fathers of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut & New England."

In a letter addressed by Mr. Pigot to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel dated November 6, 1722, he wrote of his missionary work at Stratford and Fairfield and of the valuable services rendered to him by Dr. James Laborie.

Another very interesting letter to the Secretary of the Society has

\* Trumbull's Hist. Conn., Vol. 2., p. 35.



survived the lapse of time. It is so full of interest that Dr. Laborie's own language seems preferable to that of any manipulation from another pen.

FAIRFIELD, New England, March 5, 1723.

"Rev. Sir:

Mr. Pigot hath acquainted the honorable society my circumstances thereof, I shall not be tedious in giving you an account of them. After that I left my own Country, by reason of the persecution raging there, I went to Zurich, & was ordained by Mr. Clinglet Antistes of that Canton, as you may see certified by two enclosed copies. I arrived in England at the time of King William's coronation, & there obtained a license from the Lord Bishop of London for teaching grammar & catechising the parish of Stepney. Sometime afterwards, I was persuaded by my Lord Bellemont to come into America, where he settled me for the work of the ministry in a town called New Oxford, where Mr. Boudet had been before, & gave me a commission to instruct the Indians there, the original thereof I herewith submit to your honorable society. That office I was diligent to perform, & by the blessing of God, having obtained the *lingua* of that nation, had so considerable a success that I brought some of them to the capacity of teaching others; but the town being cut off by the Indian enemies, we were forced to forsake the settlement for the security of our lives, & since my abode in the Colony of Connecticut & County of Fairfield, where are many Indians, I have concluded it my duty to continue my labors, though without any prospect of encouragement or salary, for which I propose to apply myself to Gov. Saltonstall, whose original letter of approbation attends upon you, & receiving his encouragement I began, by the enclosed introductory discourse, to prepare both the English & native inhabitants; but having declared myself a member of the Church of England, I was immediately interrupted by the Lieutenant Governor, Nathan Gold, a mortal enemy to the Church, & violently compelled to surcease my endeavours. My commission extended no further than Boston Colony. Since Mr. Pigot's arrival in the Colony I have joined with him, & done my endeavors to assist him. He hath the care of four churches considerably distant from each other, & though no missionary before ever took half the pains that he takes for the propagation of the Church of England, yet the members of his church are scattered, & the enemies thereof so busy to hinder those who are already communicants, & others who are willing to join us, that it is impossible for one man to entertain them all, & to keep them in the bosom of the Church. Therefore making use of that licence I received from Bishop Compton, I visit the well disposed people to instruct them in the principles of the established Church; & on the Lord's Day, while Mr. Pigot is at Stratford or some other place, I teach at my own house, which I have destined for the services of the Church of England.

I suppose Mr. Pigot will acquaint your honorable body with the persecutions & threatnings we are exposed to having in this town of Fairfield, the Lieut. Governor against us, & the pretended minister of the Independency continually declaiming against the Church, terming her services Popery, the way to hell, & themselves Bishops as regular as the Bishop of London, with many other extravagant expressions. Therefore if your honorable society would favor me with a larger favor than I have, I should be very glad to employ the rest of my days for the propagation of the gospel among the heathen, & instruction of the remoter members of the Church of England, not doubting but that, under the blessing of God, the Church of Fairfield would be in a short time in a flourishing condition, there being many that desire to be instructed in the principles thereof. We are here under great disadvantages by reason of the scarcity of Catechisms, Common Prayer

Books, Psalters & many other which are needed for instruction & comfort. We humbly beg the honorable society to procure some (for this town particularly) & I shall ever continue to pray for the prosperity of your glorious body, as at present, he cordially does, who is with the utmost submission,

Your very humble servant & well-wisher,

JAMES LADDER \*

From these letters something of the bitter spirit indulged in by Christian bodies, differing in regard to form and church government, is shown. There is, however, one noticeable point for reflection, viz.: that however bitter the animosities exhibited at this time, they were mild when compared with the cruelties practiced in England about one hundred years before.

1723. The Assembly met at Hartford May 9th, when Justice Gold was re-elected Deputy Governor, Judge Burr an Assistant, and Major John Burr and Robert Silliman representatives. Judge Peter Burr was appointed one of the treasury auditors. He was also appointed Chief Judge of the Superior Court and Judge of the County Court of Fairfield.

It was made a law that all nominations of judges and justices should be first made by the lower house, and that the upper house should have power to refuse their nominations, with power to fill up the roll and return it to the lower house, to be by them returned to the upper house for confirmation.

One hundred and twenty acres of land, granted in 1720 to Justice Nathan Gold, which had been granted to his wife from her father's estate, the late Colonel John Talcott of Hartford, was now ordered to be laid out to him in the ungranted lands "lying between Danbury on the north, & Fairfield & Norwalk on the south, adjoining the west side of Unpewaug Hill.†

The sum of £5,000 in bills of credit was ordered to be printed by Mr. Timothy Green of New London.

A law was passed that the treasurer of the colony should make out his orders to the constables in the towns, that they should pay the school money due to each committee, or the selectman of each town or parish, from the colony treasury and take a receipt for the same.

The Assembly met, October 10th, at New Haven. For the first time for many years Deputy Governor Nathan Gold's name disappears from the head of the Assembly officials: and it was announced that he had

\* Hist. Prot. Epis'l Church in America, by Bishops Hawkes and Perry, pp. 82-85.

† Col Rec. Conn., Vol. 1716-1725, p. 386.

died on the 3d of October, aged sixty years. His honorable and useful life has been shown in the previous pages of this history. He died a Christian, a statesman and a soldier. Like his father, he was beloved and lamented at home and abroad. He was buried in the old Burial Hill Cemetery of Fairfield, where his tombstone is still to be seen.

Peter Burr was appointed Judge of Probate at Fairfield, and of the County Court. Major John Burr and Mr. Robert Silliman represented Fairfield at this time. Major Burr was chosen Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Captain Moses Dimon Justice of the Peace for Fairfield County.

A tax of threepence on the pound was levied on all taxable estates in the colony to meet the public debts.

The Assembly granted to the heirs of the Hon. Nathan Gold, late Deputy Governor of this colony, "the whole salary for the year, which would have been paid him, if it had pleased God to have spared him longer to us." The treasurer was ordered to pay to "Mr. John Gold, his eldest son, for himself & the other children of that worthy gentleman, the sum of fifty pounds."\*

The taxable estates at Fairfield were valued at £24,492 13s. 2d.

Major John Burr was made one of a committee to take charge of the several acts of the Assembly, and to see that they were "exactly entered on the records."

During the latter part of this year the Rev. Mr. Pigot gave up his missionary labors at Stratford and Fairfield, and removed to Providence. He was succeeded by the Rev. Samuel Johnson, who was a most welcome pastor to the churchmen of both places. He had been ordained by the Bishop of Norwich, who acted in the place of the Bishop of London, and came back to America vested with the full ecclesiastical dignity of his sacred office. He settled at Stratford, where to the present day his family have been among the most prominent churchmen in that place.

But a short time before leaving Fairfield Mr. Pigot reported to the Secretary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel that the Church of England in this region was divided into two parties, "the high & the low," and that the Congregationalists "pretend to hold full communion with the low church party," but regarded the high church brethren "as rank papists."

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 1716-1725, p. 433.

1724. "In January of 1724 he wrote: Fairfield is well inclosed, & will have as large a communion as Newtown; but Dr. Laborie's industry there takes off the present necessity of a missionary in that town. This last gentleman is an excellent preacher; but by reason of his attachment to our principles is unimproved by the dissenters, as to his practice in physic, unless upon the greatest emergency."

In a report of the Rev. Dr. Johnson's to the Bishop of London at this time, he wrote "that his parishioners in Stratford had lately opened their new church called Christ's Church; & that the churchmen at Fairfield were also vigorously going forward in building a church." At the same time he lamented the want of an Episcopal bishop in America.

From the Stratford Church Records, kept by Mr. Pigot and Mr. Johnson, we learn that Mr. Dougal McKenzie \* was the first warden of the Church of England at Fairfield. The first vestrymen were James Laborie, Sen., and Benjamin Sturges. Dougal McKenzie, Esq., was one of the most prominent gentlemen in Fairfield, and a very devoted churchman.

Another very interesting letter, written by the Rev. Dr. Samuel Johnson to the Bishop of London, dated January 10, 1724, is well worthy of notice. He wrote:

"The interest of the Church gains ground daily in Fairfield, where they are vigorously going forward in building a church, & fix their expectations on a young gentleman here whom I am preparing for the services of the Church; but his age will not admit of his being ordained this time two or three years, but he promiseth well against that time."

Again, in July of the same year, he wrote:

"I have made all proper & modest application to the government, both privately & publicly; we have yet no abatement of persecution & imprisonment for taxes with sundry people, & those of both sexes have unreasonably suffered since my last; & I fear that if we can't have some relief from the honorable society for orders, people will grow quite discouraged."

The General Assembly met at Hartford, May 14th, when Judge Peter Burr was elected an Assistant, and also Chief Judge of the Fairfield County Court, and Major John Burr and Mr. Robert Silliman representatives and auditors of the public treasury. Major John Burr was chosen Speaker of the Lower House. Judge Peter Burr made one of a com-

\* Appendix, Genealogical. Hist. Prot. Epis'l Church in America—Bishops Hawkes and Perry, p. 124.



mittee to receive and assort the bills of credit in the treasurer's hands, so that the defaced ones might be destroyed.

It was resolved by the Assembly: "That the oaths provided by an act of Parliament, instead of the oath of allegiance & supremacy; & the declaration against trans-substantiation & the abjuration of the pretender, shall be made & taken by all the members of the Assembly; & by all persons who are or may be chosen on the annual day of election to the office of governor, deputy governor, assistants, secretary, & all other officers in the colony before they shall be admitted to discharge the service belonging to their place, office or trust."\*

At a meeting of the Governor and Council in June Mr. Jonathan Sturges was nominated sheriff of the County of Fairfield.

The unhappy war existing between Massachusetts and the eastern tribes of Indians gave continual cause of alarm along the western borders of the Connecticut settlements, Litchfield, New Milford, Simsbury, Ridgefield and Danbury, were frequently thrown into great distress by Indian hunters, whose guns were often heard in the woods; and as they could not distinguish friends or foe the Assembly resolved that all hunting should be prohibited both by the English and Indians, and that no Indian should be seen in the woods either in the counties of Hartford, New Haven or Fairfield unless in company of an Englishman. Major John Burr and Major Samuel Eells of Milford, with the military officers near them, were ordered to employ fourteen or fifteen friendly Indians, to be accompanied by three or more Englishmen, to scour the woods of western towns "& endeavor to take the scalps of the scalping Indian enemy." The scouts were to be commissioned. For each scalp brought by them into the Assembly a reward of fifty pounds was offered besides their stated wages.†

Mr. Jonathan Sturges accepted and was appointed sheriff of Fairfield County and took the oath appointed by the laws, "& he made a declaration against popery." Mr. John Pickett and John Richards of New London became his bondsmen in the sum of two thousand pounds, for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office.‡

The office of a sheriff in those days was one of importance. "He was the arm of the law, the embodiment of power, to be honored & feared, and a terror to evil-doers.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1717-1725, p. 466.

† Col. Rec. Conn., 1717-1725, p. 480.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., 1716-1725, p. 481.

At the meeting of the General Assembly in New Haven, October 8th, Judge Peter Burr, Captain Joseph Wakeman and Mr. Ebenezer Wakeman were present.

It was resolved that one of the military captains in the counties of Hartford, New Haven and Fairfield should give notice to the Indians in their towns that they might hunt in the woods, "where they used to hunt, provided that for a fortnight they were accompanied by some Englishmen, & carefully wore some white cloth about their heads for a signal that they are friends;" but "they must not go into the Boston government."

Captain Joseph Wakeman was made one of the treasury inspectors of the past and present issue of bills of credit.

The solicitation of Massachusetts for men and arms to help them carry on a war against the eastern Indians, who had committed many depredations and killed several Englishmen and their families, was at this time made a matter of discussion.

Colonel John Stoddard appeared before the Assembly in behalf of Massachusetts. Judge Peter Burr, with five other gentlemen who had been appointed a committee to examine into the necessity of such a war, reported that as Massachusetts had entered into this war without consulting Connecticut, of which they had not fully seen the necessity of declaring, still they were willing to lend help if occasion proved necessary. At the same time they recommended a further investigation, and counselled caution on the part of Massachusetts "lest un-necessary blood be shed."\*

1725. At a meeting of the Governor and Council held in Hartford, June 16th, it was announced that the Honorable Peter Burr had died but a few days before, December 25th, at Fairfield. He was but fifty-six years of age, and had led a most active and useful life. He was a man of fine legal ability, and figured in many important trusts for the interest of Connecticut. He was made one of a committee upon several occasions for settling the vexed boundary line between New York and Connecticut, one of the Council of War, and Chief Judge of the Superior Court when it was found that Justice Nathan Gold's health no longer allowed him to act in this office. He was yearly appointed one of the Judges of the Superior Court, and was made Judge of the Probate Court of Fairfield, which office he held until his death. Thus, in the full vigor

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1717-1725, p.502.

of life and great usefulness, died another honored son of Fairfield. His tombstone is still standing in the old Burial Hill Cemetery.\*

Upon still further intelligence from Governor Philip Schuyler of Albany that the eastern Indians were making havoc and spreading dismay along the frontiers of New York and the New England frontier towns, the Governor and Council ordered that immediate assistance should be sent to their relief. Major John Burr was forthwith ordered to send out his warrants to the chief commissioned officers of Fairfield, Stratford and Milford, to send "five effective, good able-bodied men, to be detached or impressed from each town," and to send the fifteen said men under the command of a sergeant, whom Major Burr should appoint, "to march to New Milford & there to assist in guarding, scouting, watching & warding that town."†

The Assembly met at Hartford May 13th, when Captain Joseph Wakeman was elected an Assistant, and Major John Burr and Mr. Ebenezer Wakeman representatives from Fairfield. Captain Joseph Wakeman was appointed Judge of the Fairfield County Probate Court. Major John Burr was commissioned major of the Fairfield County regiment. Captain Joseph Wakeman was made a commissioner to fix the boundary line between Connecticut and New York; and at a meeting of the Governor and Council on the 20th of March he was chosen one of the Council of War.

A memorial was presented to the Assembly by Thomas Hill and others of the northwest part of Fairfield praying for parish privileges, which was as follows:

TO THE HONORABLE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, sitting at Hartford the second Thursday of May, 1725. The humble prayer of the inhabitants of Fairfield North Village humbly sheweth, that there are about fifty families living north of Fairfield, at a considerable distance from the town, some five or six miles, & the nearest of them about two miles & a half or more, whose lists amount to £4,000, which inhabitants labor under great difficulties on account of their enjoyment of some of the precious means of grace, especially the proclaiming of the word of life, in the ordinary way & means God uses in the conversion & bringing home poor, lost & undone sinners. Not only ourselves are frequently obliged to be absent from divine worship, but our poor children are under a kind of necessity of perishing for lack of vision, both which are very troublesome to those who are inquiring what they shall do to be saved, & that are hungering & thirsting after Christ & salvation & righteousness in & through him. The distance of the way, especially in bad weather, utterly incapacitates many persons, old & young, to go to the house of God, which makes us willing rather to expend considerable of our earthly treasure in maintaining the public worship of God among ourselves than to lose our spiritual treasure &

\* Hist. of Fairfield, Vol. I., p. 360.

† Col. Rec. Conn., 1717-1725, p. 512.

undo any of our poor, immortal souls, esteeming each of them better than a one thousand worlds."

Signed by Thomas Hill, John Bartram, David Williams, Barn. Gilbert, Benjamin Franklin, Thos. Turney, Daniel Adams, Elijah Crane, Ebenezer Hull, & sixty-two others \*

The Assembly granted this petition, provided the inhabitants of the northwest parish paid all their dues to the old parish of Fairfield as before, until the Court should take further action in their case. Mr. John Clop of Norwalk, Captain John Hawly and Mr. Edmund Lewis, both of Stratford, were appointed a committee to inspect the circumstances of the northwest parish and make a report to the October session of the Assembly.†

At a meeting held November 25th, 1725, with John Hyde for moderator, the northwest parish agreed to call the Rev. John Goodsell to be their minister, and that they would settle upon him an annual salary of one hundred pounds, in bills of credit, so long as he lived as a minister among them; but if through age or inability to attend to his duties, they agreed "to give him an honorable support or maintenance of one hundred pounds of current bills of credit of the colony a year." To this agreement John Goodsell signed his name. The names of Benjamin Banks, John Hyde, George Hull, John Burr, Peter Burr, David Williams and Joseph Banks were signed in behalf of the parish. On the following January it was voted: "That a suitable tax should be levied to pay the expenses of the parish; & that two sign posts should be set up, one at the meeting house, and one at Hull's Farms (so called) to warn the parish meetings on—all warnings to be nailed to the posts five days before a meeting."

At the same time:

"The Court, taking into consideration the representation of the General Association, met at Hartford on this instant May, respecting the circumstances of the old or first parish in Fairfield, by reason of the infirmities that have a long time attended the Rev. Mr. Joseph Webb, pastor of that church, he being much disabled, & through weakness, & infirmity not able to carry on the work of the gospel ministry amongst his people, to the great grief of the good people in that society; Upon consideration of which, this Court recommends it to said society to agree with some other orthodox minister, as soon as conveniently they can, & call him to the help of Mr. Webb in the work of the ministry."‡

The town acting upon this liberty, called the Rev. Noah Hobart to

\* Greenfield Hill Parish Records. State Colonial Ecclesiastical Rec., Vol. 3.

† Col. Rec. Conn., 1717-1725, pp. 522 and 573.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., 1717-1725, p. 547. Hist. Fairfield, Vol. I, p. 420.



act in the capacity of a colleague to Mr. Webb. Mr. Hobart was a grandson of the Rev. Peter Hobart of Hingham, Mass., and as he was a young man of superior ability and accomplishments, he proved most acceptable to the people of the Prime Ancient Society.

Measures were taken to assist in prosecuting the war against the Indians and to carry out the orders given in May, to which was added the following: "That if any number of effectual men or particular persons should equip themselves at their own expense & go forth, upon news of the approach of the enemy, & take any scalps, they should receive the sum of one hundred pounds out of the public treasury of the colony for each scalp brought into the Assembly."\*

It appears that Captain Samuel Couch, having purchased of the late Hon. Nathan Gold and Major Peter Burr, acting as agents for the Assembly, to sell the county land lying between Danbury and Fairfield, now petitioned that he should receive a patent for one half of this land, which he had purchased. The other half had been previously sold. The Assembly ordered that he should be given a patent of his purchase, "saving always to the Indian Chicken, what he in his deed to the petitioner had reserved and saved to himself & his heirs."†

Captain Joseph Wakeman and the Fairfield representatives were present at the opening of the General Assembly in New Haven, October 14th.

The committee to examine into the condition of the North West parish of Fairfield made a favorable report to the Assembly, which granted "that the said parish shall [have] & hath allowed all the privileges & advantages as are allowed by law to other parishes in this government."‡

At a meeting of the Council of War at this time hostilities between the Indians and the frontier towns having been quieted, the restriction against Indians hunting in the forests was withdrawn; only, they were prohibited from painting, and were to wear a white cloth on their heads "to distinguish them from the enemy."

The 10th of November was appointed as an annual thanksgiving day. The Church of England at Fairfield had been so far completed that on this happy occasion it was opened for the first time for divine worship, and was named Trinity Church. This church Mr. Caner afterwards de-

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 1716-1725, p. 535.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 1716-1725, p. 540.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., 1717-1725, p. 573.

scribes as a wooden structure.<sup>‡</sup> The location of this church appears to have been near the late Rev. Dr. Samuel Osgood's residence on the Rocks, above Hyde's Pond, and very near Dr. Laborie's stone house, and the stone powder-house still standing. In the early part of the present century the tombstones of the church burial ground east of the late Jonathan Sturges residence formed a part of the fencing of a lot near which this first Church of England stood. Within a few years they have been reverently gathered and placed in the Burial Hill Cemetery at Fairfield.

Mr. Henry Caner, who was a graduate of Yale College, became the assistant of the Rev. Dr. Samuel Johnson at Stratford and Fairfield, until he went to England for holy orders. This young man was the son of Mr. Henry Caner of Stratford, who had the honor of building the first rector's house of Yale College.

1726. The General Assembly met at Hartford May 12th, when Captain Joseph Wakeman was elected an Assistant, and Major John Burr and Mr. Ebenezer Wakeman representatives from Fairfield. Major John Burr was chosen one of the treasury auditors.

Mr. Greshom Bulkley was confirmed captain, Mr. Moses Ward cornet player and Mr. Thaddeus Burr quartermaster of the Fairfield County troops. Mr. Thomas Hill was confirmed captain, Mr. Moses Dimon, Jr., lieutenant, and Mr. Samuel Wakeman ensign of the train-band of the North West parish of Fairfield.<sup>†</sup>

It was enacted that any person "guilty of profane swearing, cursing, drunkenness or Sabbath breaking," should be judged by the law and punished.

It was represented at this time that the fees of the judges and justices and jurors of the County Courts were too small. It was, therefore, enacted "that the judges of the County Courts should receive seven shillings, justices six shillings & the grand jurors three shillings per diem, the jurors eighteen shillings & a justice of the peace four shillings, for every action tried before them."

The law for admitting strangers to become inhabitants in the towns of the colony was made forcible by the following act:

"That if any person or persons shall, contrary to the intent of this law, entertain, or hire any stranger or transient person, or let any house or land to such stranger, or transient person, without giving good security to the authorities & select men, he should forfeit the

\* Hist. Prot. Epist. Church by Bishops Hawkes and Burr (p. 106).

† Col. Rec. Comm., 1720-1735, p. 8.

sum of twenty shillings per week for every week he shall harbor, entertain or hire any such person:—that it shall be in the power of the authorities & select men to refuse bonds & securities, unless such strangers had first been given permission to remain in any town. And that no planter or person belonging or living in any of the towns in the colony, should sell or convey land to strangers, contrary to An Act for directing the admission of town inhabitants should for every such offence pay a fine of twenty pounds.”\*

Postmen employed in the public service, or witnesses in civil or criminal causes, were allowed “five pence per mile out for their travelling expenses.”

Major John Burr was appointed with John Hooker, Esq., to receive and immediately burn all torn and defaced bills of credit.

The Governor and Council in June appointed Andrew Burr sheriff of the County of Fairfield.

The 18th of May was a glad day among the inhabitants of Fairfield North West parish, who assembled in their meeting and school-house to embody themselves in church state; to receive the covenant, as well as to ordain the Rev. John Goodsell as their minister. The Covenant of the North West parish was the same as that of Green’s Farms.

Under this Covenant were subscribed the following names:

John Goodsell	John Burr	Peter Burr
John Hide	Ebenzer Hull	Theophilus Hull
George Hull	Cornelius Hull	Stephen Burr
Daniel Bradley	Obadiah Gilburd	

The ordination of the Rev. Mr. Goodsell followed.

Samuel Wakeman Esqr. & Moses Dimon Esqr. were made deacons.†

The Rev. Mr. Goodsell was a native of Stratford. He was born in 1706, graduated at Yale College in 1724 and was but twenty years of age when he was ordained pastor of the Greenfield church. He married Mary Lewis of Stratford, who became the mother of seven sons and eight daughters.

The law which had been passed some few years previous, allowing the constables and selectmen to receive and pay out the public money for the benefit of schools, proved unwise, as it was found that money was taken where no schools were legally kept. This law was in consequence repealed.

It was voted, at a parish meeting held at Fairfield, October 26th, to maintain a parish school as on the previous year.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 1726-1735, p. 21.

† Greenfield Parish Records.

As no provision had been made for such societies as had separated from the first society in any of the towns to form themselves into a society, or how to warn the first society meeting after the General Assembly had granted parish privileges, the following law was passed in October:

"That when any society was legally set off in any town, an assistant or justice of the peace, together with three of the principal inhabitants in any such first society, should, by a warrant under the hand of such assistant or justice & three inhabitants aforesaid, warn all the inhabitants in the limits of said society, to meet together at such time and place as they shall appoint, when & where they shall first choose a moderator, & then a clerk, who shall by some assistant or justice of peace be sworn to a faithful discharge of his office; which being effected, they may proceed to enact anything lawful & proper for such a society to do, as in case of other societies." \*

At the sitting of the October Assembly in New Haven, Captain John Wakeman and Mr. John Lockwood represented Fairfield in place of Major John Burr and Mr. Ebenezer Wakeman.

The taxable estates of Fairfield were represented to be £26,880 10s 6d.

At a meeting of the Governor and Council at Hartford, December 29th, the death of Judge Joseph Wakeman was announced. He died in the fifty-sixth year of his age, and lies buried in the Burial Hill Cemetery of Fairfield.† Major John Burr was appointed to act in his place as Judge of Probate for Fairfield County.

At a parish meeting held in October at Fairfield North West parish (or Greenfield) it was:

"Voted, That a meeting-house should be built, & be begun the ensuing year; & that the dimensions of said meeting-house shall be 52 ft. in length, 42 ft. in breadth & 24 or 25 ft. between joints—that the meeting-house shall be set or stand half way between Mr. Samuel Whitlock's north-east corner of his home lot, & the meeting-house where we now meet. Thomas Hill, John Burr, Moses Diamond, & Benjamin Banks, were chosen a committee to take care of building the meeting-house & to agree with some person or persons to build the said house."

In the month of September the Rev. Mr. Pigot reported to the Secretary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel the following:

At Fairfield the number daily increases, & they have erected a small Church, which I opened last fall, & we call it Trinity Church. And Mr. Henry Caner takes a great deal of pains to very good purpose, & will I doubt not prove a very worthy man, but he has a slender support from his people. He designs, about two years hence, to wait on the honorable society for orders & a mission, unless they see cause to forbid it. In the mean time, as he stands in great need of it, so he & the people would be thankful, if the honorable

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 7, p. 74.

† Hist. Fairfield, Vol. I., p. 417.



society would be pleased to grant him a small encouragement for the pains he takes in instructing that people & their children in the principles of religion, which he now performs in the quality of a sort of Catechist, omitting everything that is sacerdotal. But not only he, but sundry other very worthy young gentlemen, dreading the thought of so tedious a voyage, wait with great impatience in hopes that possibly, Providence may send us a Bishop, for want of which the Church in these parts is derided & laughed to scorn; while our enemies can take the advantage of immediately fixing teachers whenever they please, in opposition to the Church, & defy us to our faces."

1727. The year of 1727 opened with serious troubles among the good people of Fairfield. It appears that some of our ancestors, even in the Congregational and Presbyterian churches, were as bitterly opposed to the control of church and state in America as their forefathers had been to the same form of government in England. The taxes laid upon the towns for the support of the Established Church of the colony proved most offensive to the people of the Church of England, and some of the gentlemen at Fairfield resolved to resist a law which they deemed to be as unjust as it was unreasonable. They, therefore, refused to pay the tax collector for the support of the Congregational Church of the town, upon the plea that as they did not attend that church and were not allowed to vote at their parish meetings, "it was taxation without representation," in consequence of which they were imprisoned in the jail.

The Rev. Mr. Johnson sent the following account of their condition to the Secretary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel.

"Upon their request I came to the prison, & found it full of them, & an insulting mob about them. I administered what comfort I could to them, but I wish your Lordship, or some of your sacred character, could have been by to behold the contempt & indignation which our holy religion suffers among an ungrateful people. I assure your Lordship, the Church here is in a gaping condition, though, indeed, our people bear it with as much meekness & patience as could be expected."

The Rev. Mr. Johnson writes: "that it was their own contrivance to fall into this method."

In April Mr. Henry Caner embarked for England, carrying with him a letter of introduction from the Rev. Mr. Johnson to the Society. The following extract from this letter will give some idea of the comfort Dr. Johnson derived from having this young man associated with him in the Church. After recommending him as in every way worthy of the confidence of the Society, he thus wrote:

"He has already done a great deal of good service at Fairfield for the time he has been among them, in the quality of a catechist & school-teacher, & will be very acceptable

to them as a missionary as appears by their address enclosed, & will likewise be a great comfort to me, in my solitary neighborhood, in conspiring with me to forward the interests of religion in this country, & thereby relieve me of a great part of that burthen that lies upon me, who, besides Fairfield, have five places which I am obliged to visit & administer to as often as I conveniently can."\*

At the meeting of the General Assembly at Hartford, May 11th, Fairfield was represented by Mr. Robert Silliman and Mr. John Osborn. Major John Burr was appointed Judge of the Fairfield County Court and also Judge of Probate.

The following memorial of Moses Ward and others was offered by the churchmen of Fairfield:

"Upon the prayer of Moses Ward of Fairfield, To the Honorable, the Governor, Assistants & Representatives in General Court assembled this 15, of May 1727, the request of sundry members of the Church of England in Fairfield humbly sheweth that,

Whereas, we are by the honorable society in England, & the Bishop of London, laid under obligation to pay the support of the said established church,—having accordingly constantly paid it,—been at a great charge in building a church for the worship of God, we pray this Assembly would, by some act or otherwise, as your wisdom shall think fit, excuse us hereafter from paying to any dissenting minister, or to the building of any dissenting meeting-house. And whereas we were, ten of us, lately imprisoned for our taxes, & had considerable sums of money taken from us by distraint, contrary to his honor the Governor's advice, & notwithstanding solemn promises before given to set down & be concluded thereby in this affair, we pray that those sums of money taken from us be restored again. If these grievances may be redressed, we shall aim at nothing but to live peaceably as becometh Christians among our dissenting brethren; & your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

MOSES WARD	}	Church
SAMUEL LYON		Wardens.
DOUGAL MCKENZIE	}	Vestry.
JOHN LOCKWOOD		
NATHAN ADAMS		
BENJ. STURGES, &c.		

In the name & behalf of all the rest of the brethren."†

In response to this petition the General Assembly enacted the following law:

"That all persons who are of the Church of England, & those who are of the churches established by the laws of this government, that live in the bounds of any parish allowed by this Assembly, shall be taxed by the parishioners of said parish by the same rule & in the same proportion, for the support of the ministry in such parish: but if it so happen that there be a society of the Church of England, where there is a person in orders according to the canons of the Church of England settled, & abiding among them, & performing divine service, so near to any person that hath declared himself of the Church of England

\* Hist. Prot. Episcopal Church in America, by Bishops Hawkes and Perry, p. 115.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 1725-1735, p. 106.

that he can conveniently & doth attend the public worship there, then the collectors, having first indifferently levied the tax above said, shall deliver the taxes collected of such persons declaring themselves & attending as aforesaid, unto the minister of the church of England living near unto such person; which minister shall have full power to receive & recover the same, in order to his support in the place assigned to him. But if such proportion of taxes be not sufficient in any society of the Church of England, to support the incumbent there, then such society may levy & collect of them who profess & attend as aforesaid, greater taxes at their own discretion for the support of their minister. And the parishioners of the Church of England, attending as aforesaid, are hereby excused from paying any taxes for building meeting-houses for the present established churches of this government." \*

This step on the part of our ancestors may be regarded as the first effectual effort taken towards establishing the rights of religious freedom in America. Others in the colony had advocated it, but without success. The struggle was one, however, of years in fully accomplishing, but like almost everything else based upon justice, freedom and righteousness, it prevailed; and we Christians of the present day, in a great measure, enjoy the peace and good-will in our communities which our sturdy forefathers persevered in and accomplished for us.

At the same session of the General Assembly the Fairfield North West parish was given the name of *Greenfield*, according to the custom of those days in naming a parish set off from other parishes. The first part of the name having been taken from *Green's* Farms and the latter part from *Fairfield*, making *Green-field*.†

It appears at this time that certain persons in the colony distilled liquor from molasses, and as it was judged to be very unwholesome a fine of three shillings a gallon was imposed upon such offenders.

The session of the Assembly met at New Haven, October 12th, when Major John Burr and Mr. Andrew Burr were present.

During the sitting of this Court a most interesting scene took place on the College Green at New Haven. King George the Second had succeeded his father on the throne of England, and throughout the English colonies in America he was proclaimed our Sovereign Lord, King George the Second, of Great Britain, etc., with great demonstrations of joy. The Colonial Records give the following account of the proceedings at New Haven:

"According to the orders of this Assembly the regiment of the County being drawn up on the great square before the court-house the Governor & Council & Representatives,

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 7, p. 107, and Colonial Ecclesiastical Records.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 7, p. 143.

the Reverend Trustees of Yale College, & many of the clergy, with some of the common planters, & a great concourse of people at the head of the regiment, a proclamation was read to an herald appointed, who proclaimed *in a loud & cheerful voice*, according to said proclamation, in the most solemn manner, & was concluded with great demonstrations of joy. Afterwards several of the members of the Assembly, the said reverend trustees, with many of the clergy, & the officers of the said regiment, of all orders, before his Honor—the Governor—and Council, readily & cheerfully took the oaths provided by act of Parliament & appointed to be taken instead of the oaths of allegiance & supremacy, & the oath of abjuration, & also they made the solemn declaration against popery, according to the form & effect of the said Act of Parliament."

"A treat of thirty pounds was ordered to be made for the refreshment of the soldiers; a quarter of a pound of powder to be allowed each sentinel; & a sufficient quantity of powder for discharging three of the great guns on that day."

"It was also ordered that ten pounds of candles should be provided to illuminate the New Haven Court House, & a barrel of good wine be provided for the refreshment of the Assembly."\*

Thomas Nash was confirmed captain, Mr. Isaac Sherwood lieutenant and Mr. Nathan Morehouse ensign of the Green's Farms train-band.

It appears at this time that the towns in the colony were disturbed with many "evil disposed & dissolute persons, which led the Assembly to resolve:

"That land should be sequestered & a house, or houses of correction erected at Hartford, New Haven & New London, for keeping, correcting & setting to work all rogues, vagabonds, common beggars & other lewd, idle, dissolute & disorderly persons,—that the authorities of each town should watch for & arrest persons using any subtle craft, juggling, or unlawful games or plays, or feigning themselves to have knowledge of physiognomy, palmistry, or pretend they can tell destinies, fortunes, or discover where lost or stolen goods may be found, common pipers, fiddlers, runaways, stubborn servants or children, common drunkards, common night-walkers & pilferers. A suitable master was ordered to be appointed to set all persons sent to his custody to work & labor [if they be able], & to punish them by putting fetters or shackles upon them, by moderate whipping, not to exceed ten stripes at once, (unless by commitment otherwise directed) at their first coming in, & from time to time, if they be stubborn or idle." If this punishment did not bring them to perform their tasks, "they are to be reasonably stinted in food, until they be reduced to better order." Those belonging to any town were ordered to be supported by their families, or the towns from which they were sent; but if not an inhabitant of any town, they were to be supported out of the public treasury. If industrious they were to be allowed out of their earnings two-thirds for their support, unless heads of families, when their earnings, or as much as the county-court thought necessary, should go to the support of their families."†

On the night of the 29th of October a heavy earthquake is represented to have shaken the whole American Continent. Dr. Trumbull states:

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 7, p. 132.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 7, p. 127.



“That although the preaching of the gospel was not without success at this time, & though there was tolerable peace & order in the churches, yet there was too generally a great decay, as to the life & power of godliness; yet abundant were the lamentations before God on the part of the ministers & people of the Colony, with many days of fasting & prayer kept in the churches, to seek the special influences of the Holy Spirit in the awakening & sanctification of the people.

The terror occasioned by this earthquake produced a temporary conviction of sin in the hearts of many, who had previously neglected the worship of God; but in a majority of cases, it appears to have been more the result of fear, than of genuine repentance. In several places the ministers took advantage of the occasion to preach to their people of that true repentance which springs from a desire to become Christians out of love to God; & the danger of repentance from fear or expediency. But all this was of little avail. The hearts of great numbers became still more hardened in sin. The country was visited with sore sicknesses; epidemics prevailed & great mortality followed. It appeared to them as if the face of God was turned away from them, & that He was laying upon them the punishment of their ungodliness.”

Sadly had the third generation departed from that zeal in promoting a strictly conscientious walk before God which had characterized the first generation in the colony. Vices of divers kinds had crept in, and although historians tell us such a thing as a profane oath was never heard, or a man drunk never seen in the early settlements of the colonies, these evils now became the crying sins of the third generation. But as God was ever merciful to our forefathers, in His own good time He sought them out and manifested to them the mercies of His pardoning love.

1728. At a meeting of the Governor and Council in February it was reported that Mr. John Denny of Fairfield and others in the counties of Fairfield and New Haven had been engaged in selling and vending their goods by lottery without license, whereby many innocent persons lost their money. This matter was taken into consideration in January, and a law passed prohibiting any further lotteries, under a heavy penalty. Timothy Green was ordered to print sixty copies of this act, which were to be posted in the county towns of Fairfield, New Haven, Hartford and New London.

It appears that the law passed in May of 1727, releasing the members of the Church of England from being taxed for the support of the Established Church of the colony affected those only who lived near the minister of the Church of England, while those who lived a mile or more from him were taxed in the same way as they had been before this law was enacted.

\* Trumbull's Hist., Conn., Vol. 2, pp. 134-137.

The Rev. Henry Caner, who had returned in safety from his voyage to England, and been settled as rector of the Church of England at Fairfield, reported soon after his return to the Lord Bishop of London:

"That although the Dissenters had lately passed an act to exempt all professors of the Church from paying taxes to the support of their minister, yet they take the liberty to determine themselves who may be called Churchmen, & interpret that act to comprehend none that live a mile from the Church minister; by which means, not only two thirds of the Church, but of its revenues likewise we are entirely deprived of the benefit of; & the favor they would seem to do us, prove, in reality, but a shadow."

At the same time Mr. Caner wrote to the Secretary the following letter:

"Fairfield, March 15. 1728"

*Rev. Sir:*

The heavy taxes levied for the support of dissenting ministers, joined with a small & voluntary offering to the Church renders them almost incapable of carrying on the Church, which is not yet finished, nor in any way likely to be so at present. The truth is the people are heartily ready & willing to do their utmost to be as little burdensome to the honorable society as possible; but being generally poor, & Fairfield being the chief seat of the Dissenter's opposition, they are able to contribute but little to the support of that worship, which their consciences urge them to maintain.

Besides Fairfield, which I constantly serve, & the villages contiguous, which belong to that town, as Pequonnock, Green's Farms, & Greenfield, I have several times preached this winter at Norwalk, a town twelve miles distant from Fairfield, & at Stamford, which is twenty miles distant, & at Greenwich, about twenty-seven miles distant from Fairfield, & which is the utmost town within the borders of this government westward. Besides these, there is a village, northward of Fairfield, about eighteen miles, containing twenty families, where there is no minister at all of any denomination whatever; the name of it is Chestnut Ridge, & where I usually preach or lecture once in three weeks. Newtown which is about twenty-two miles northwest of Fairfield; Ridgefield & Danbury, the one seventeen & the other twenty-three miles distant from Fairfield. In most of the above places there are seven, ten or fifteen professing the Church of England, from which places, joined with Fairfield, the taxes strained from members of the Church for the support of dissenting teachers amount to £100, which is about £40, sterling, of which Fairfield pays about half. The taking away of these sums very much hinders the building they are carrying on, as well as of contributions to the support of a minister, for which latter use, they are not able to raise above £10 sterling per annum.

Notwithstanding this discouragement the Church grows & increases very much, four families being added since my coming, one whom was a Jew,\* whose wife only was before a christian. This person, besides his excellent skill in Hebrew & Greek, & other Eastern languages, is well studied in Rabbinical learning, & is a very accomplished person upon all accounts; neither is his conversation balanced with any views of interest or friendship, as I can learn, but upon very good & serious principles, he embraces the Christian faith, being baptised with his family very lately.

Besides these, since September last, I have baptised one adult & seventeen infants, one

\* This Jew was Andrus Truby. the ancestor of the Truby family of Fairfield.

whereof was an ingenious Indian, & have eight new communicants, the whole number of which is now forty-nine. I have further prospects likewise of baptising two other Indians in a short time, of about thirty years of age, who are very seriously disposed, & attend divine worship with some constancy.

HENRY CANER." \*

He also mentions "another Jew, a very sober, sensible young gentleman whom I have been instrumental in bringing over to the Christian faith." This Jew's name was Mr. Mordecai Marks.

In the month of April the Rev. Dr. Johnson of Stratford wrote to the Secretary: "That those who live a mile or more from the Church of England are still persecuted by those who call themselves the Established Church, & treat us as dissenters."

To prevent a practice which had crept into the towns in the colony of warning their training, town meeting, society and proprietor days, on the Sabbath day, the Assembly passed the following act: "That for the future, all such warnings & notifications, on the Lord's Day, except publications of intents or purposes of marriage, shall be deemed illegal, & of none effect."

And it was further enacted:

"That it shall be lawful for any person, & the duty of the grand-jurymen, constables & thylthing-men in the several towns & societies in this government, to pull down & destroy every written or printed notification or proclamation about secular affairs, that shall or may be fixed upon the door, or any other part of the meeting-house, or house of God, in any of the towns or societies within this Colony on the Sabbath or Lord's day, or on fast or thanksgiving days, & not suffer such notifications or warnings to stand or abide thereon upon the Lord's day.

And every person who shall presume to set up or fix any such written notification, as above said, on the Lord's day, in order to be seen & read on the Lord's day by the people, contrary to this act, being convicted thereof before any one assistant or justice of the peace, shall pay a fine of ten shillings for every such offence to the town treasury of said town, for the use of the poor in said town." †

1728. Mr. Robert Silliman and Mr. Samuel Burr represented Fairfield at the meeting of the General Assembly at Hartford on the 9th of May. Major John Burr was appointed Judge of the County Court and of the Probate Court and Justice of the Peace of Fairfield. Mr. Samuel Burr was made one of the treasury auditors.

A Court of Probate was ordered to be held at Stamford for that

\* Bishops Hawkes and Perry's, Hist. Prot. Episcopal Church, p. 128.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 7, p. 186.

town and for Greenwich and Ridgetfield, but all appeals from that court were to be made to the Superior Court at Fairfield.

As no law existed for the punishment of private lotteries, "which were growing at a prodigious rate," the proclamation which had been made in January and sent particularly to the towns of Fairfield and Norwalk, notwithstanding which John Denny of Fairfield and one Samuel Cluckstone of Norwalk, having held the proclamation and the authorities in contempt, and wilfully continued the sale of lottery tickets, the Assembly saw fit to order them both to appear before them. The sheriff of the country was ordered forthwith to bring the said Denny and Cluckstone to answer "for contempt of authority." Accordingly the offenders were in a few days brought before the Assembly, when, upon making due confession of their guilt, and explanation of not having received the printed proclamation until their lottery tickets had been sold, and that since then they had not had any lotteries, but fully observed the law, the Assembly accepted their submission, and upon paying the charges of the prosecution they were dismissed. A law was enacted that all such offenders should be arrested and "their goods, monies by wagers on shooting, or anything whatsoever be forfeited, one half of which should be given to the prosecutor & the other half to the county treasurer.\*

Mr. John Silliman was confirmed captain of the train-band of Fairfield.

The ecclesiastical affairs of Fairfield appear to have been the chief and most enthusiastic matters of interest at this period.

In October the Rev. Mr. Caner reported to the Secretary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel:

"That the Indians in numbers were very small about Fairfield, by reason of the vicious lives they led, with their excessive drinking, which destroys them apace; & of those few that remain, to the eternal shame of the English in these parts, it must be said, that, although I constantly labor with them, as I find them in my way, yet very seldom conceive hopes of doing them any good, who have taken up an inveterate prejudice against Christianity, grounded on the shamefully wicked lives of us its professors."

In order to evade the law which prevented his parishioners who resided at a distance from paying towards the support of the Congregational Church, he proposed to the Society that instead of being appointed a missionary at Fairfield only he should be sent an instrument, under their common seal, appointing him their missionary, to serve from Fair-

\* Col. Rec. Conn., 1717-1725, p. 161.



field to Byram river, on the borders of the government westward," by which means he would be under obligations to reside sometimes at one of these places and sometimes at another, as the necessity of either might require. In this way he hoped to administer to all who professed the faith of the Church of England, as well as to gain the revenues of the more remote church people.

This step was not, however, thought advisable by the members of the Society, and it was decided that Mr. Caner's plan was not wise, as it could not escape the law.

Three societies had, from time to time, been granted parish privileges and been severed from the old Prime Society. With Pequonnock there had been a serious quarrel indeed. Green's Farms and Greenfield had also bravely maintained their rights to maintain a church and school of their own. Whether experience, the remoteness of Lone-town, the unfortunate condition of its inhabitants in religious privileges or an effort on the part of the Church of England to form a parish in that region induced the good people of Fairfield to part with them with a better grace than they had exhibited towards the other parishes is a matter of some interest. Upon the pages of the town records is to be found the following note:

Dec. 30, 1728. Upon the request of Mr. John Read of Lone-town in ye behalf of Lone-town, Chestnut Ridge & the peculiar, between Fairfield & Danbury, requesting yt. there should be two miles of ye rear end of ye Long Lots of said Fairfield added unto said peculiar in order to make a parish, was voted in the affirmative.

The General Court met at New Haven October 10th, when Major John Burr and Mr. Samuel Burr represented Fairfield.

An act for enlarging the County of Fairfield was passed by a vote: "That all that tract of land called New Fairfield, lying north of Danbury, west of New Milford & east of the government line, shall be annexed to the County of Fairfield."\*

A law was passed that for every wolf killed in any of the towns in the colony a reward of ten shillings should be paid to any person thus engaged, as well as ten shillings out of the town treasury where the wolf was taken.

An act was passed that no person should vote in any society meeting "for the choice of a minister or officers, grants, rates, erecting meeting

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 1725-1735, p. 214.

houses, regulating schools, or any other thing proper to be voted for in a society, unless a freeholder rated at fifty or forty pounds in the common list, or that are persons in full communion with the church"; on penalty of forfeiting ten shillings for every such offence.

1720. At the meeting of the General Assembly, May 8th, at Hartford, Major John Burr and Mr. Samuel Burr represented Fairfield. John Burr, Esq., was chosen an assistant of the General Assembly and also Judge of the Fairfield County Court.

Mr. Samuel Burr was commissioned lieutenant and Mr. Samuel Squire ensign of the first train-band of Fairfield. Mr. Daniel Hubbell was commissioned lieutenant of the train-band of Stratfield.

Upon the memorial of John Read in behalf of himself, & the rest of the inhabitants of Lone Town, Chestnut Ridge, & the Peculiar between Fairfield & Danbury, shewing to this Assembly the great difficulty they labor under in attending on the public worship of God, & the forwardness of the town of Fairfield to encourage them to set up the public worship of God among themselves, by conceding that two miles of the rear end of their long-lots be added to them, in order to make them a parish; & praying this assembly that they may be allowed to be a society for the worship of God, with the privileges granted to such societies or parishes, & that said society or parish may comprize those lands that lie encircled betwixed the townships of Fairfield, Danbury, Newtown & Ridgefield, together with the aforesaid two miles of Fairfield long lots; & that they may have remitted to them their county rate during the pleasure of this Assembly; & that all the lands aforesaid may be taxed by the order of said Assembly; & that said parish be annexed to Fairfield; & that it be named *Reading*;

This Assembly grants that the said Lone Town, Chestnut Ridge, & the Peculiar thereof, be a society or parish by themselves, & to have all the privileges usually granted to societies or parishes, & that said society or parish shall comprize all those lands, that be encircled betwixt the townships of Fairfield, Danbury, Newtown & Ridgefield, together with the two miles of the rear end of the Fairfield long lots. Furthermore, this Assembly doth remit to them their county rates for four years, excluding those only who decline to joyn with them for what is paid for, of being released of county tax; & that all the laid out unimproved lands, within the limits of said parish, be taxed six shillings a hundred acres per year for four years; & that the money raised thereby be improved for the defraying the ministerial charges among them in that place; & that said parish be named *Reading*.\*

The meeting-house was not completed until 1732. It was built in the centre of the public square, a few yards west of the present Methodist church.

The Rev. William Nathaniel Hunn was elected minister of the parish January 31, 1733. Two years afterwards Mr. Hunn was married to Miss Ruth Read by the Rev. Noah Hobart of Fairfield. Miss Read

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 1725-1735, p. 231.

was the daughter of the Hon. John Read, who settled at Lonetown in 1714, and a sister of Colonel John Read of the Read Manor at Reading.\*

At the same time that Reading was made a parish, A Memorial, dated May 26, 1729, of Isaac Brown and the rest of the wardens and vestrymen of the Church of England was presented to the Assembly:

—"praying for redress from taxes & persecution;" & requesting "liberty to manage their own affairs as a society, according to the canons & rubrics of the Church of England;" & expressing their adherence to that Church, "let the difficulties be never so great." This petition was signed by,

ISAAC BROWN	}	Vestrymen of	
BENJAMIN BURTT		Stratford.	
SAMUEL LYON	}	Church wardens	
MOSES WARD		of Fairfield.	
MOSES KNAP	}	Vestrymen of	
HENRY JAMES			Fairfield.
NATHAN ADAMS			
JOHN LOCKWOOD			

The petition was rejected, and feelings of bitter resentment engendered, which in after years proved most unfortunate.

It appears that the members of the Church of England in New York took a lively interest in the condition of the churchmen of Fairfield, in consequence of which John Rodman, Samuel Bonne and Edward Burling addressed a letter to the General Assembly of Connecticut, desiring them not to imprison their brethren. They wished them to consider "that they were a distinct society of christian protestants, as well as they were, & have through the mercy of God free toleration for the exercise of their religion, and that they took care to build a meeting-house of their own, and other concerns of their religion, without being burdensome to others—therefore they think it not unreasonable for them to force any of their friends, seeing that we are all dissenters from the maternal church. They recommend that all who go out of their churches to join the Church of England be provided with certificates."†

The age of religious toleration was, however, slowly advancing. The glorious dawn of liberty had not yet shed its genial rays of light and blessing upon our beloved country; but, step by step, year by year it

\* Fairfield Parish Records. Charles Burr Todd in his History of Redding, has corrected the mistake of Mr. Barlow and Mr. Law in supposing that the original John Read lived and died in Reading. He removed to Boston in 1722, and his son John succeeded to his title and to the Manor at Lonetown."

† Connecticut Ecclesiastical Society Records, Vol. B.

was gaining ground, and the long looked and hoped for day was not now far distant when the vast Republic of the United States should offer a home, not only to her own people, but to those who sought her protection from all the kingdoms of the world.

The Assistants of the General Assembly were voted 4*d* per mile "for their travel to & fro from the Assembly, & 9*s*. 6*d* per diem exclusive of the Sabbath day." The representatives were allowed "7*s*. per diem & 3*d*. per mile for travel."\*

On the 29th of May, "At a church-meeting in ye old Parish of Fairfield," Mr. Lothrop Lewis was chosen a Deacon of the Congregational Church by a major vote of the Brethren.

Meanwhile the Prime Ancient Society continued to flourish under the ministry of the talented Rev. Mr. Hobart.

"At ye same meeting it was voted that the worshipful Mr. John Gold should set & read the Psalm, & in case he be absent or indisposed that his brother Mr. Samuel Gold should do it."

The Assembly met at New Haven, October 9th, when an important change was made for the benefit of freemen in the several towns. Previously the names of freemen entitled to vote were enrolled in the secretary's office of the colony. As the towns increased in numbers and in population it became difficult to always make quick returns, specially from the remote towns. It was, therefore, enacted that the town clerks in each town should make a list of the freemen, which list "should be made in the open freemen's-meeting, legally assembled, by the direction of the authority & selectmen of the town." It was further enacted: "that none should be made freemen but in a regularly assembled meeting, when they should be lawfully admitted & sworn freemen, & their names enrolled by the town clerk."†

An amusing anecdote is related by one of the oldest inhabitants of Fairfield, that upon one occasion when it was suspected that a fair vote had not been rendered a town meeting was summoned, and the opposing voting parties were arranged opposite each other out upon the Military Green and duly counted.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 7, 246.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 1725-1735, p. 259.



## CHAPTER X

1730—1740

### GROWTH AND PROSPERITY OF FAIRFIELD

State military officers.—Law for slaves.—Settlement of boundary between New York and Connecticut.—Value of Fairfield estates.—Maintenance and growth of the Church of England.—Law for erecting meeting-houses.—Vice to be suppressed.—Stratfield military officers.—Canaan meeting-house.—Town taxes.—Death of Dr. Laborie.—Parsonage lands.—Reading petitions England for a clergyman.—Rev. John Beach.—Towns not to entertain strangers.—Death of Rev. Joseph Webb.—Rev. Noah Hobart's ordination.—Election ball.—Church customs.—Queen Anne's munificent grant to the Church of England in America.—Dean Berkeley's visit to America.—His gift of books and scholarship to Yale College.—Diversion of Queen Anne's gift.—Dean Berkeley's mortification and return.—Berkeley Divinity School at Middletown.—Western Lands.—School laws.—Greenfield and Fairfield military officers.—Preservation of Forests.—New bills of credit.—Value of Fairfield estates.—Encouragement of silk and linen weaving.—Manner of calling church gatherings.—Epidemic in the colony.—Decline of religious interest in families.—Sale of parsonage lands.—Church of England not allowed to share in the sale of these lands.—Law for gathering church taxes.—Capt. Samuel Couch's patent of Indian land.—New Fairfield to be settled.—Severe laws against theft and burglaries. Restrictions on tavern keepers.—Military laws.—Magistrates of 1736.—Mutilated bills of credit.—Evangelizing the Indians.—New Fairfield.—Magistrates of 1737.—Superior Court.—New Fairfield.—Wilton meeting house.—Green's Farm's meeting house.—Western lands.—Greenfield militia officers.—Magistrates of 1738.—Report of Colony laws and bills of credit.—Reading.—Town privileges of New Fairfield.—Fairfield military officers.—Magistrates of 1739.—Reading bounds.—Military and naval regulations.

1730. THE events of interest in the history of a flourishing town like Fairfield increase in proportion with its growth. The ecclesiastical struggle within the past decade had opened a wider field for religious thought. Religious controversy in those days arrayed neighbor against neighbor, but as time passed charity and good will followed, and each member of the community discovered that his neighbor was entitled to his own individual opinion and convictions. These were steps which led up to the formation of the grandest republic in the world. The Boston tea party had its day, but long before that the members of the Church of England at Fairfield had demonstrated "that taxation without representation" was as intolerant as an established church under a designed republican form of government.

The General Court met at Hartford, May 11th. Major John Burr

was elected an Assistant, and Messrs. Samuel and Thaddeus Burr representatives from Fairfield. Major John Burr was made Judge of the County Courts.

An act was passed that if any Negro, Indian or Mulatto slave should speak in a defamatory way of his master, and being convicted before a Justice of the Peace, should be whipped at the discretion of the Justice before whom the trial took place, not exceeding forty stripes.

The General Assembly met at New Haven, October 8th, when Judge John Burr, Mr. Ebenezer Silliman and Mr. Samuel Burr were present.

The vexed and long unsettled boundary line between Connecticut and the Province of New York, in which many of the leading men of Fairfield, from time to time, had taken an official and active part, was happily settled and confirmed by the Assembly.\*

Mr. Samuel Barlow was commissioned to be lieutenant and Mr. Samuel Rowland ensign of the second Fairfield train-band.

The Fairfield estates were estimated to be worth or valued at £30,552 12s.

A question was raised, "whether any such persons as profess themselves of the Congregational or Presbyterian persuasion (so called), since they are allowed and under the protection of our laws, ought to qualify themselves, as mentioned in the Act for the ease of such as soberly dissent from the way of worship and ministry established by the laws of this government? Resolved in the negative."

There is no doubt but that great advantage was taken of the law passed for the benefit of those who differed from the faith of the established church of the colony; and that many sought refuge under this law in order to escape ecclesiastical taxes. The sin of receiving and giving that which costs us nothing was then as now, too often the refuge of dishonest people. There was also some disquietude on account of the progress the Church of England and other religious bodies were making in the colony.

On the 30th of September, 1730, the Rev. Mr. Caner reported to the Secretary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel that the churchmen of Fairfield were only able to raise fifteen pounds towards his salary, but that they had devised a plan to raise a church fund through bequests. It was proposed: "that every professor of the Church of England should, by his will, devote a certain sum to the support of this par-

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 1725-1735, p. 294.

ticular Church, to be used by the Church Wardens for purposes designated by the Church."

At the same time Mr. Caner reported to the Honorable Society that since this design had been set on foot two members of his church had died, each leaving £100 to the church fund; and that two others had willed legacies, one £100 and the other £50, to the same end. He reported the number of communicants in the parishes under his charge to be sixty-five, and that there were about five hundred professors of the Church of England in all the parishes.

1731. The General Assembly met at Hartford on the 13th of May, when Judge John Burr was elected an Assistant, and Mr. Samuel Burr and Mr. Robert Silliman representatives from Fairfield. Major John Burr was also appointed Judge of the Fairfield County Court and one of the colony auditors.

Mr. John Crane was commissioned lieutenant of the Green's Farms train-band.

Many quarrels having arisen in parishes "respecting the places proper for erecting meeting-houses," the Assembly saw fit to pass an act, that when any parish wished to build a meeting-house they should not only apply to the Assembly for permission to do so, but to fix the place upon which it should be erected; "those only tolerated by the laws of this colony & dissenting from us excepted." The clerk of each society was ordered to make a report to the Assembly of the progress made in its erection. Any transgression of this order was subject to a fine of one hundred pounds, to be paid into the public treasury. If any parish, having obtained consent to build a church, without in due time finishing it, "the Assembly was to assess & levy sufficient money to further its erection."\*

The Rev. Cotton Mather states that there was scarcely a meeting-house or school-house in all New England about the location of which there had not been a quarrel.

The first Monday in January and June were fixed as days for the Justices of the Peace, grand jurors, constables and tithing-men to hold town meetings, "to advise & consider how they should best suppress vice & immorality & the due execution of the laws of the colony."

All attorneys were exempted from bearing arms and attending on the musters and military exercises in the colony.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 7, p. 334.

The Assembly met in New Haven, October 14th, when Mr. Daniel Hubbell of Fairfield was commissioned captain, Mr. John Burr lieutenant and Mr. Ephraim Hubbell ensign of the train-band of the parish of Stratfield.

Mr. Andrew Burr was commissioned lieutenant of the Fairfield second train-band.

Captain Gershom Bulkley was made one of a committee to fix a place for erecting a meeting-house in the parish of Canaan, in Fairfield County.

A law was enacted that the listers of every town should be sworn to a faithful discharge of their duty, and return a certificate to the Assembly signed by the Assistant, Justice of the Peace, or Town Clerk. Any town neglecting to make a faithful return of its taxable list, "such town should be doomed by the Assembly."

During this year Fairfield sustained a great loss in the death of Dr. James Laborie. He was an accomplished French gentleman, who won the respect and confidence of all who became acquainted with him. He was a skilful physician, a brave soldier, and a sincere Christian. He devoted a large part of his time in instructing the Indians in the Christian religion and in actively furthering the interests of the Church of England in Fairfield and throughout the colony. In granting a petition to his son in 1731, the General Assembly mentioned him "as a gentleman of great skill & practice." He was probably buried at Stratford, as no tombstone to his memory is found at Fairfield.\*

1732. A serious question now arose among the townsmen of Fairfield in regard to the parsonage lands, which in previous years had been granted for the use of the Prime Ancient Society. The Congregational societies of Green's Farms, Pequonnock and Greenfield claimed each a share in these lands. This was something to be considered aside from building meeting-houses, and trouble seemed to be at hand. At a town meeting held May 7, 1732, John Burr, Samuel Burr, Samuel Couch and Samuel Wakeman were appointed "a committee to inquire what parsonage land there was in Fairfield, what circumstances it was under, & make a report thereof to the next town-meeting."

About this time the inhabitants of Reading and Newtown petitioned the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts for a clergyman of the Church of England to be settled among them. The

\* The author of this work some years since presented two handsome brass vases to St. Paul's Church, Fairfield, in memory of Dr. James Laborie.



services of Mr. John Beach of Stratford, who was at that time on his way to England for holy orders, were requested for Reading and the surrounding towns.

It appears that Mr. Beach had been settled over the Congregational Church at Newtown eight years before, but had been led to change his religious views through the influence of the Rev. Dr. Samuel Johnson, who had been his tutor at Yale College. He took with him letters to the Bishop of London of the highest recommendations. The petition from Reading and Newtown was signed by Lemuel Morehouse and others of the Church of England in those places. During his absence some malicious persons had stirred up a tribe of Indians living about three miles from Newtown to believe that upon his return he would rob them of their lands, and oblige them to support him. Upon his arrival home, however, he was soon able to quell the mischief done by his manly course and kindness to them. For want of a church to hold services in, he opened his own house, and "pressed on with a resolute and cheerful spirit, conciliating many of the Indians, & gathering around him a large congregation of his own countrymen."

Some months after his arrival he reported to the Society: "I have now forty-four communicants, & their number increases every time I administer the Communion. The people here have a high esteem for the Church, & are now greatly rejoiced that they have an opportunity of worshipping God in that way, & have begun to build two small churches, the one at Newtown & the other at Reading."\*

Altogether, the Church of England at this time seemed to be in a prosperous condition. The little church at Fairfield proved no longer of sufficient size to seat the congregation, and measures were taken to enlarge its capacity by building galleries which would accommodate about two hundred people.

At the meeting of the General Assembly at Hartford, May 11th, Major John Burr was elected an Assistant, and Mr. Andrew Burr and Mr. Ebenezer Silliman representatives from Fairfield. Major John Burr was appointed Judge of the Fairfield County Court.

Notwithstanding all the provisions made against entertaining strangers in the towns, it was discovered that many such were employed, and sometimes cared for at the expense of the colony. To prevent this, a law was passed, save in cases of sickness or accident, that no person

\* Bishops Perry and Hawkes' Hist. Prot. Epis. Church, p. 150.

after the 10th of July should entertain any stranger over forty-eight hours, and then at his own expense. Thomas Nash, Moses Dinnon and Thomas Hill presented the case of one William Williams, who had had one of his legs amputated at Fairfield. The Assembly humanely granted £100 7s. 9d. out of the colony treasury to be used by the selectmen of the town for the maintenance of the afflicted man, "in which case mercy was coupled with justice."

The fees of the Judges of the Superior Court were fixed at 15s. per diem, while on the circuit, and those of the Chief Judges £20 more yearly. Twenty shillings out of every trial was to go towards the salary of the judges, and if this fell short the remainder of their fees were to be collected out of the public treasury. The fees of jurors were increased to 24s.

Once again a cloud of sorrow and lamentation fell over the congregation of the Prime Ancient Society of Fairfield. In the month of September the Rev. Mr. Webb had gone to a place called Unity, where he was taken ill and died. His body was brought to Fairfield on the following day.

Mr. Webb was ordained at Fairfield on the 15th of August, 1694. He had served as a faithful pastor for thirty-eight years. His long life of usefulness in the town, and for the interests of Yale College, as well as the changes which from time to time occurred in the separation of no less than four parishes from his congregation, have already been related. Reverently and tenderly his sorrowing parishioners laid his venerable remains in the Burial Hill graveyard. He left a widow and large family to mourn his loss.\*

In October the Rev. Noah Hobart, who, as a colleague, had been a staff and support to Mr. Webb, was called to be his successor in the pastoral office by a vote of the Society.

The following interesting record of the events which took place at this time is recorded in the first extant parish records of Christ Church, by the Rev. Noah Hobart:

1733. "At a meeting of ye Brethren, & of ye Communicants of ye Church of ye Prime Society in Fairfield on Wednesday ye 17. Day of Janu'y A. D. 1733.

Deacon William Hill chosen moderator. Ebenezer Silliman chosen Scribe.

Put to vote at sd. meeting, whether ye Church make choice of ye Rev. Mr. Noah Hobart for ye head & pastor; & past in ye affirmative—Nom. Com'ttee.

\* Webb, Genealogy, Hist. of Fairfield, Vol. 1, p. 420.

"Put to vote at said meeting, whether ye ordination of ye said Mr. Hobart be attended on Wednesday ye 7. day of February next; & passed in the affirmative. Nom. Com'tee.

"At sd. meeting also Andrew Burr Esqr., Deacon Lothrop Lewis, & Mr. Eben'zer Silliman were chosen a Committee to call a Council to ordain ye sd. Rev. Mr. Hobart on sd. day.

"The Consociation of the County of Fairfield set at Fairfield February the 6. & 7. 1733, at the desire of the Church of the Prime Society in said Place, & ordain a Pastor over them.

Present from Danbury the Rev. Mr. Seth Shove, & Mr. Francis Bernham messenger.——Woodbury, the Rev. Mr. Antony Stoddard & Capt. Joseph Winn, messenger.——Stratfield, the Rev. Mr. Samuel Cooke & Major John Burr, messenger.——Ridgefield, the Rev. Thomas Hawly & James Benedick Esqr., messenger.——Southbury, the Rev. Mr. John Graham & Lieut. Andrew Heman messenger.——Norwalk, the Rev. Mr. Moses Dickinson & Capt. Joseph Platt messenger.——Stratford, the Rev. Mr. Hezekiah Gold & Deacon Robert Walker messenger.——Stamford, the Rev. Mr. Ebenezer Wright & Capt. Jonathan Hoit, messenger.——Greenfield, the Rev. Mr. John Goodsell & Deacon Daniel Burr messenger.——Unity, the Rev. Mr. Richardson Minor & Lieut Joseph Nichols messenger.——Horseneck, the Rev. Mr. Abraham Todd & Lieut. Ebenezer Mead messenger.——Newtown, the Rev. Mr. Elisha Kent & Mr. Joseph Peet, messenger.——Green's Farms, Capt. Samuel Couch, messenger.

"The Rev. Mr. Cooke was chosen moderator, & the Rev. Mr. Dickinson, scribe. The Rev. Mr. Stoddard desired to Preach on the Present occasion—The committee of the society produced in council the Doings of said society, by which it appears that Mr. Noah Hobart, a candidate for the ministry, who for some time had been laboring among them, has a unanimous call of ye said society, to the work of the ministry in s'd place.

A copy of the Doings of the Church of sd. society was likewise offered in Council, by which they likewise agree in the sd. society in their call to ye sd. Mr. Hobart to be their Pastor. Mr. Hobart produced a Certificate under the hand of sundry ministers; who, from their personal acquaintance with the sd. Mr. Hobart, do signify his being one of a virtuous conversation in full communion with their churches, & of desirable ministerial accomplishments.—The Council, after a serious & impartial examination are well satisfied with Mr. Hobart, both in respect of his orthodoxy & ministerial qualifications, & do hereby concur with the sd. society & Church in respect to their motion.—Voted by the Council that the Rev. Mr. Stoddard perform ye prayer, by which the sd. Mr. Hobart may be set apart to the work of the ministry. That the Charge be given by the Rev. Mr. Cooke, the moderator; that the Rev. Mr. Hawly perform the first prayer, & the Rev. Mr. Graham the last; & that the Right Hand of Fellowship be given by the Rev. Mr. Shove,—and the ordination was attended accordingly.

From the minutes of the Council.

NOAH HOBART."\*

It was the custom in the early days of the settlement of Connecticut on the evening after a minister had been elected over a church for the young people to give an *election ball*. This ball was honored with the presence of the minister of the church and all the dignitaries of the town. But as time passed these balls were looked upon with discredit, as frivo-

\* Fairfield Christ's Church Parish Records.

lous and unbecoming professing Christians; and for this reason they were discontinued about 1733. Our grave ancestors, any doubt, looked upon this expression of joyfulness on the part of the members of the church very much in the same light that Michel, the wife of King David, looked upon her husband when, clothed in his white linen ephod, he danced before the Lord and all the hosts of Israel with all his might, after he had returned from bringing the Ark of God from the house of Obed Edom into the city of David.

Again, a little later, in the month of June, is another entry of interest:

"At a meeting of the Brethren, the Commencement, June 4, 1733, upon Deacon Israel declining to serve any longer at the Lord's Table, the Church chose Capt. Moses Dimon to succeed him. At the same time, Andrew Burr Esq. was chosen to act & read the Psalms."  
*NEED THREAT, Pastor?*

In the earliest days of the colony the seat of the ruling elder was immediately under the pulpit. A little further down sat the deacons, facing the congregation. The men sat on one side of the meeting-house and the women on the other, while the boys had a place separate from them, with a tithing-man, appointed by law, to sit with them and keep them in order. As girls are not mentioned in the rules of seating, the natural conclusion to be drawn is that our grand-dames were modest and well-behaved from their childhood, and, therefore, were allowed to sit with their mothers.

The service consisted of extemporaneous prayers, reading from and explaining the Bible and singing from a metrical version of the Psalms. A sermon one hour in length, by an hour-glass, which stood on the pulpit, was usually preached. The first versions of the Psalms used by the colonists were by Henry Ainsworth of Amsterdam, and by Stenhold and Hopkins. In 1640 The Bay Psalm Book, which was compiled by some of the leading ministers in New England, was introduced, and generally used in all the churches. The leading ministers in this publication were "Welde & Eliot, of Roxbury, & Mather of Dorchester."\* It was issued from the press at Cambridge, and was the second book printed in British America. It also became of extensive use in Great Britain, especially in Scotland. The following lines are taken from this version:

"The heavens do declare  
 The majesty of God;

\* Palfrey's History of New England.



Also the firmament shows forth  
 His handiwork abroad.  
 Day speaks to day ; knowledge  
 Night hath to night declared ;  
 There neither speech nor language is  
 Where their voice is not heard."

Dr. Isaac Watt's version of the Psalms was not used until about the middle of the eighteenth century. For nearly a century "not more than ten different tunes, if so many, were used in public worship. Few congregations could sing more than five tunes, now known by the names of York, Hackney, Windsor, St. Mary's & Martyn."\*

All musical instruments were forbidden. Only the human voice was heard, pitched to the tuning-fork. The names of the tunes were called out by the precentor who led the singing, who sat in front of the pulpit facing the congregation, reading and singing the lines alternately.† Judge Nathan Gold occupied this place for some years in Fairfield. The introduction of a violin at last broke upon the grave questioning ears of the Puritan elders and deacons. Then came the flute, and finally the organ was restored to church worship.

The beautiful songs of David, with which he delighted to chant the praises of the God of Israel, found no room among the Puritan's songs of worship. His version in the Bible had been used by the Romanists and the Church of England, and with the desire to evade every appearance of forms connected with either of these churches the metrical version was introduced. Some of the latter psalms are very beautiful, but no poet has ever attained to the sweetness, the pathos and the sublimity of the inspired Psalmist of Israel.

It is a strange thought, and one worthy of reflection, that we Christians of to-day do not aim in our songs of worship to look over the middle centuries to the church founded by the Almighty amid the thunders of Sinai, and to the beautiful ritual of David and Solomon. Are we, or were our Puritan ancestors, any wiser than the children of Light? But great improvements have taken place within a few years, and now we hear in the Congregational churches the Psalms of David chanted

\* Palfrey's History of New England.

† An amusing story is related of a Miss Ogden of Mill Plain, who, in the absence of the choir leader one Sunday, called out the tune Peterborough, giving the sound of Burr to the second syllable. A sleeping elder by the name of Peter Burr was suddenly awakened, and springing to his feet faced around to the choir in blank amazement, much to the surprise and amusement of many in the church.

with a Christian fervor which carries us back to the white-robed choir of the Temple and the antiphonal responses of the Sons of Asaph.

The solemnity depicted upon the faces of our forefathers on the Sabbath, not only out of regard to the day, but that the youth might be led to worship in the spirit of true holiness, was but the mute concentration of all known litanies into those few simple words, "Lord have mercy upon us miserable sinners!"

About this time the Rev. George Berkeley, Dean of Derby in Ireland, afterwards Bishop of Cloyne, sent over one thousand volumes to Yale College, amounting in value to about five hundred pounds. The members of the Church of England were cheered at this time with the prospect of a Bishop, only to be bitterly discouraged in the end.

At the Treaty of Utrecht, in 1713, the French ceded certain lands in St. Kitts to the British crown. The good Queen Anne designed that £80,000 from the sale of these lands should be appropriated as a fund for the support of four bishops in America; but before her project could be carried out she died, and the matter was allowed to slumber for some years.

Dean Berkeley, however, called the attention of Sir George Walpole, first lord of the treasury and prime minister in the reign of George the Second, to the design of Queen Anne. After many importunities, Walpole reluctantly proposed to the House of Commons that £20,000 should be applied towards erecting a college at Bermuda. The grant was allowed, and with other encouragements, in the way of large subscriptions from personal friends, Dean Berkeley set out for America, with every confidence in the success of his enterprise.

He arrived at New Port, in Rhode Island, in the year 1729, with a charter from the Crown to found a college at Bermuda, the design of which was to educate scholars in theology and literature throughout British America, and to instruct the Indians in the Christian faith. He was so much better pleased with the advantages which Rhode Island offered than were to be found at Bermuda that, for a time, he seriously contemplated making it the seat of the college. Fearing, however, that this plan might interfere with the instructions of the Royal charter and the promised grant of money, he sailed for Bermuda, where with great patience he awaited the promised pledge of money from the prime minister. His faith, from the long delay of any reply to his appeals for this money, at last became somewhat shaken, which led him to make an ap-

plication to the Bishop of London for some explanation, and relief from his mortifying situation. After several fruitless efforts by letter to gain any satisfaction from Walpole, the Bishop requested an interview, which was granted. For the sake of Dean Berkeley the Bishop pressed the Prime Minister for a definite answer as to whether the pledged sum of money would be paid. He received from the treacherous Walpole the following reply :

“If you put this question to me as a minister, I must & can assure you, that the money shall most undoubtedly be paid as soon as suits with public convenience ; but if you ask me as a friend, whether Dean Berkeley should continue in America, expecting the payment of £20,000, I advise him by all means to return home to Europe, & to give up his present expectations.”

This answer was a sad blow to the cherished project of Dean Berkeley, “This,” says the Rev. Dr. E. E. Beardsley, “was the treacherous blow which felled to the dust what Sir James Mackintosh termed, ‘a work of heroic, or rather godlike benevolence.’ It was given by the same prime minister to whom belongs the deep disgrace of having defeated the two noblest projects that ever were formed for the benefit of the American Church—the one for the erection of four Bishoprics in 1713, & the other for the establishment of a Missionary College in Bermuda in 1729. The whole amount of eighty thousands pounds, arising from the sale of the crown lands in St. Kitts, the obligation which rested upon a part of it having been thus unjustly released, was bestowed as a marriage portion upon the Princess Royal; & so the Government, for reasons of state, consented to the robbery of the Church.”

Finding himself unable to carry out his noble scheme, Dean Berkeley returned with his family to England; not, however, without leaving behind him such testimonials of the sincerity of his undertaking, and how near to his heart the design of enhancing the cause of Christianity in America had lain, as were in his power to bestow. While here a most happy and intimate friendship had existed between him and the Rev. Dr. Samuel Johnson of Stratford. They were men of kindred minds, of scholarly tastes and of benevolent undertakings; and both were devoted soldiers of Christ. They were, therefore, particularly fitted to enjoy the companionship of each other, which existed for a space of two years and a half.

The interest which Dr. Johnson had taken in Yale College when a tutor had never abated. Both he and Mr. Caner of Fairfield paid fre-

quent visits to New Haven, that the students from the Church of England families in Connecticut might enjoy the privileges of her services; and thus be sustained in that liberality of Christian training which must ever be made the basis of every flourishing institution of education.

It was through the influence of Dr. Johnson that Dean Berkeley became interested in Yale College. He was pleased with the efforts which some of the trustees were making to promote the prosperity of that institution. Before leaving for England he distributed the valuable library he had brought with him to this country among his clerical friends, and made a donation of all his own works to the library of the college.\*

Two years after he returned to England, and "assisted by several gentlemen who had been liberal subscribers to his own intended college," he sent to the library of Yale College nearly a thousand volumes, valued at about five hundred pounds. This donation was afterwards pronounced by President Clapp to be "the finest collection of books which had then ever been brought at one time to America."

At the same time, in order to encourage classical learning, Dean Berkeley sent to Dr. Johnson a deed, by which a farm which he had purchased at Rhode Island might be conveyed to the trustees of the college, the net income of which was "to be appropriated to the three best scholars in Greek & Latin, who shall reside in New Haven at least nine months in a year in each of the three years between the first & second degrees; the candidate annually sustaining a public examination in the presence of the senior Episcopal missionary in the Colony."

In after years Bishop Berkeley enjoyed the satisfaction of hearing from Dr. Johnson of the benefit derived by the students from his effort to create "a laudable ambition to excel in a knowledge of the classics."

Many years have passed since the noble Bishop was defeated in his plans for establishing an Episcopal college in America, but within the present century Trinity College of Hartford has become a flourishing institution, and our late honored and revered Bishop Williams of Connecticut, with the helpful donations of liberal friends, erected a prosperous Divinity School at Middletown, called the *Berkeley Divinity School*. It is thus:

"The memory of the just,  
Shall flourish when he sleeps in dust."

Many of the sons of Fairfield have enjoyed the benefit of Bishop

\* Beardsley's Hist. of the Church in Connecticut.



Berkeley's liberality to Yale College. From the Berkeley Divinity School her sons have gone out into the world to proclaim the glad tidings of the Gospel of Peace. Some have accomplished their work, and been gathered home to the Mansions of Rest, but their names have become home names in the family of the Church Militant at Fairfield.

From a letter written by the Rev. Mr. Caner to the Secretary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts we learn that a spirit of good-will was gaining ground among our ancestors. The following extract is taken from his letter to the Secretary, dated,

"Fairfield Sep. 8. 1733: The spirit & temper of the people so hot against us, very much abates; & they begin to treat us in a more friendly manner than they were wont. This good disposition, by God's assistance, I hope to cultivate & improve to beneficial effects." He reported that there were at that time seventy-eight communicants in his Church; "& that the state of the Church in general is indeed much more promising than in any time past."

A controversy which had been carried on for some years in the colony in regard to certain lands lying in the western part of Connecticut, called "The Western Lands," was settled about this time. It appears that during the usurpation of Governor Andrus, in order to save these lands from the grasp and disposal of the obnoxious governor, the General Assembly, on the 16th of January, 1686, hastily and without due deliberation attempted to secure them to the colony, by making the following transfer, until the time of danger should be passed:

"This Court grants to the plantations of Hartford & Windsor those lands on the north of Woodbury & Mattatuck, & on the west of Farmington & Simsbury, to the Massachusetts line north; to run west to Housatonic, or Stratford river; provided it be not, or part of it, formerly granted to any particular person to make a plantation or village."

No legal consideration was purchased or given, nor any deed or patent granted for these lands—in a word, they were simply placed under the protection of Hartford and Windsor for the Governor and Company until the time of trouble should be passed.

But when the Governor and Company afterwards claimed these lands as their own, there arose serious troubles in the colony, especially at Hartford, where a riot was set on foot on account of the imprisonment of certain refractory claimants, who had persisted in locating and vending the lands against the express orders of the legislature. Owing to great difficulty in suppressing the rioters, and a feeling of general dissatisfaction on the part of the claimants, as well as those who had been induced

to make purchases of certain parcels of these lands, the General Assembly in 1726:

Resolved that the lands in controversy, should be divided between the colony & the towns of Hartford & Windsor; that the Colony should have the western part, & Hartford & Windsor the eastern division. The towns of Litchfield & certain lands which the towns of Hartford & Windsor had conveyed away to Benjamin Fairweather, & to the town of New Milford should not be included in the division. On the 22. of May 1729 the Governor & Company gave a patent of one half of this land to the Colony, and the remaining half, "bounded on the north on the line of Massachusetts; west, partly on the lands belonging to the Governor & Company, & partly in the town of Litchfield; south partly on the town of Waterbury, & partly on the town of Farmington; east, partly on the town of Farmington & partly on the town of Simsbury, & partly on land belonging to the Governor & Company," was divided between Windsor & Hartford, a partition of which was made by a deed between Hartford & Windsor Feb. 11, 1732.

In May of 1731 a map, drawn by Mr. Thomas Kimberly, of the lands which the Governor and Company had relinquished to the colony, was laid before the General Assembly by the committee appointed to draw up an opinion and make a report thereof to the Assembly.

They reported:

"That having considered the same, we are of opinion, that it may be best and most proper for this Assembly to appoint some meet person to lay out five towns in the said lands, on the eastward of the Ousatunnuck river; four of which towns we think may be accommodated northward of Litchfield, & a line drawn from Litchfield northwest corner to the Ousatunnuck; & one town between Litchfield & the Ousatunnuck river; & that the persons appointed to this service make report of their doings herein to this Assembly in October next, with their opinion of the goodness or barrenness of the lands in each of the said townships, but if the service cannot be done by them so as to make their report to the Assembly in October next, that then they make their report to the Assembly at their session in May next; & that upon the making their report, the Assembly then proceed to dispose of & settle said lands, in such manner & method as they in their great wisdom shall think best. All which we humbly submit to the consideration of the Assembly.

*Committee*

Roger Wolcot	John Riggs
Edmund Lewis	Samuel Willard
John Marsh	Ebenezer Silliman."
Thomas Huntington	

In Oct. 1733 "Upon the memorial of the Rev. Mr. Samuel Andrew, Eliphalet Adams, Elisha Williams, Trustees of Yale College: This Assembly do grant and order, that in each of the five new townships lately laid out east of Ousatunnuck river, there shall be laid out, in one entire piece, three hundred acres of land, to be laid out at a distance from the several town platts; which tract of land, containing in the whole fifteen hundred acres, shall, when laid out, be, by a patent under the seal of this Colony, granted & confirmed to the trustees of said college, to have & to hold to them & their successors,

trustees of the said college, for the only & sole use, benefit & behoof of said school, forever, & to no other use."

In May, 1733, the committee appointed to make a report of what they thought proper should be done with the several townships laid out in the western lands made the following return to the General Assembly:

"First, That an act be made and passed at this Assembly, granting all the monies which shall be raised by the sale of the seven towns, lately laid out in the western lands, to the towns of this Colony that are now settled, to be divided to them in proportion according to the list of their polls & rateable estate in the year last past, & to be secured & forever improved for the use of the schools kept in said towns according to law."

In order to sell & settle these lands, a committee was ordered to be chosen in each county in the Colony, "who should enter the names of the persons who shall desire to be purchasers of the new townships & settle the same under such regulations as the Assembly shall order, with the sum that each person should offer to pay for a share in any one of the said townships. These townships were divided into fifty shares each, besides three other shares which were set apart, one for the first minister that should be settled there, to be conveyed to him in fee; one to be sequestered for the use of the established churches of the Colony, & one for the use of the school or schools in those towns forever.

The committee for the county of Hartford was appointed to take subscriptions for the township number 1, "being the north eastern town & the north most township on the west side Ousatonic; and the committee of the county of New Haven shall take the subscription for the township no. 2, being the southeast town, and the southern town on the west side said river; the committee of the county of New London shall take the subscription for the township no. 3 being the northwest town; the committee of the county of Fairfield shall take the subscription for the township no 4, being the middle town bounded west by Ousatunnuck river; & the committee for the county of Windham shall take the subscriptions for the township no. 5, being the lower or southern town, & is bounded westerly by the Ousatunnuck river, which subscriptions, taken by the committees as aforesaid, shall be transmitted to the General Assembly at their session in October next."

Mr. Andrew Burr and Mr. Samuel Burr were made a committee to take the subscriptions of the County of Fairfield.

At the same time an act was passed for the encouragement and better support of schools in the several towns and parishes in the colony, that the money arising from the sale of these lands should be used for the support of said schools, "(viz.:) those schools that ought to be kept in those towns that are now settled, & that did make & complete lists of their polls & rateable estate in the last year past."\*

At the meeting of the General Assembly at Hartford, May 10, 1733, Major John Burr was elected an Assistant, and Captain Samuel Couch and Captain Andrew Burr representatives from Fairfield. Major Burr was appointed Judge of the County and Probate Courts of Fairfield, and one of the treasury auditors.

Mr. Moses Dimon, Jr., was commissioned captain, Mr. Samuel Wake-

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 7, pp. 44, 100, 109, 341, 343, 361, 362, 386, 445, 457, and 412.

man lieutenant and Mr. Samuel Lyon ensign of the Greenfield parish train-band.

Lieutenant Andrew Burr was commissioned captain, Mr. Samuel Rowland lieutenant and Mr. John Dimon ensign of the second train-band of the town of Fairfield.

A law was passed at this time to preserve the forests and young timber lands. It had for years been a practice in the towns to burn in the spring the wild growth of vines and shrubs on the commons and roadsides, which sometimes extended into the forests, causing great loss and damage. It was, therefore, made a law "that no person after the 10th of August should set fire on any lands or commons in the colony," under a heavy penalty.

An issue of five thousand pounds of bills of credit, which had been made in the month of February, was now ordered to be stamped on the large and small plates. And another issue be made of twenty thousand pounds on new plates, which should be denominated and in number as the former plates, but with suitable distinctions.\*

In order to meet these several issues of bills of credit, taxes were levied from time to time on the inhabitants of the towns.

The Assembly met at New Haven, October 11th. Judge John Burr, Captain Andrew Burr and Lieutenant Samuel Burr were present from Fairfield.

Mr. James Judson was commissioned captain, Mr. Moses Ward lieutenant, Mr. Elnathan Peet cornet player, and Mr. Daniel Brinsmaid quartermaster of the Fairfield County troops. Mr. Simon Couch was commissioned ensign of the Green's Farms train-band.

The taxable estates of Fairfield were valued at £34,862 10s. 11d.

1734. The General Assembly met at Hartford, May 7th, when Major John Burr was elected an Assistant, and Lieutenant Samuel Burr and Mr. Ebenezer Silliman representatives from Fairfield. Major John Burr was made Judge of the County Court of Fairfield. Lieutenant John Burr was commissioned captain, Mr. Ephraim Hubbell lieutenant, and Mr. David Sherman ensign of the Stratfield train-band.

An effort having been made to raise silk in the colony, to encourage which the Assembly enacted a law:

"That a premium should be paid of one shilling, or piece for every ounce of good sewing silk; for every pair of silk stockings weighing four ounces, & so *pro rata*, seven

\* Col. Rec. Conn. 7, 1729-1731, p. 400.



shillings & six pence; for every yard of silk stuff one shilling, & for every yard whereof the warp is all silk two shillings & three pence; for every yard of silk half a yard wide, weighing less than one ounce three shillings & nine pence; for every yard weighing one ounce & less than two ounces six shillings; for every yard weighing two ounces or more nine shillings; all to be well wrought. Which premium shall be paid on an order obtained of the county court of the public treasury, & to be given to the person that wove the silk & showed that it had been made from the growth & product of silk worms, bred & nourished in the colony. This act was to continue for ten years.”\*

An act was also passed to encourage raising flax for making canvas or duck and fine linen:

“A premium of four pence a pound was offered for good hemp raised in the colony; twenty shillings for every bolt or piece of good canvas or duck of thirty-six yards in length thirty inches wide, weighing not less than forty-five pounds; for every yard of fine linen cloth, well spun, woven & one yard wide, & made of yarn that is eight run to the pound, two shillings a yard & so *pro rata* for wider or narrower.”

Persons who made duck or fine linen were to receive a premium only when they took it to an Assistant and one Justice of the Peace, in the county in which they lived, and showed that the hemp was grown and spun within the county. This act was to continue in force for five years.†

There was an effort on the part of a few persons to raise silk and weave it in the colony, but it did not prove successful, except in the way of sewing silk. But the art of linen weaving had for some years been followed, until it became the pride and ambition of every housekeeper and her daughters to spin and weave linen for sheets, table covers, towels and wearing apparel. Some became such adepts in the art as to produce figures,‡ plaids and spots in their towels and table covers. A housekeeper with a well-filled linen closet of her own weaving, was considered rich, and she exhibited her stock with the greatest degree of pride.

Home-made blankets and woollen by the yard, called *home-spun*, was woven for stockings and wearing apparel, dyed in red, blue and yellow colors. One of the most picturesque and graceful pictures of those days was to see a matron or young girl standing with her carded wool in one hand while turning her spinning-wheel with her other, as she spun it into yarn. With what dexterity and deftness they wove it from their home-looms into cloth! What a picture she presented in the evening at home, or at a neighboring gathering, with her knitting-needles, as she knit

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 7, p. 494.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 7, p. 512.

‡ The author of this history presented to the Smithsonian Institution at Washington, D. C., in 1895 a fine linen towel spun and woven by her grandmother, Elizabeth Jennings Hubbell, in 1821.

stockings for her family! O ye mothers of those days, what precious memories you recall, as all your hours of industry are up in demonstration upon your children's children!

The Assembly met at New Haven, October 10th, when Judge John Burr, Captain Samuel Couch and Mr. Ebenezer Silliman were present from Fairfield, when but little of interest to Fairfield took place.

The taxable estates of Fairfield were valued at £35,582 19s. 4d.

The Green's Farms Parish Records afford us an idea of how our ancestors were summoned to worship on the Lord's day, "Dec. 23, 1734. It is ordered that John Blackman shall beat the drum on *Clapboard Hill*, & sweep the meeting-house, & have fifty shillings for so doing."

There is an old tradition that the very earliest custom of calling the people to church was by beating narrow strips of board together on the summit of some prominent or central hill in each parish; and that this early practice gave rise to the name of *clapboard hill*. There are no less than three hills named in this way in the town—one at Fairfield, one at Stratfield and one at Green's Farms. There may have been others in the northern villages of the town. Drums took the place of the clapboards until such times as the several parishes were able to provide their meeting-houses with a bell.

In May the General Assembly passed a law giving liberty to the inhabitants of the towns which had obtained permission to worship for certain months in the year separate from the established churches of the colony, to lay taxes upon the members of the societies to which they belonged for the support of their churches, according to the vote of the majority of the members of said societies. They were also allowed to choose a clerk to enter their votes, and a committee of three or more discreet and able men to conduct the prudential affairs of their societies.\*

About this time a most alarming and terrible throat epidemic, called the throat distemper, prevailed in the Colony of Connecticut. Dr. Trumbull states that it was attended "with sudden & extraordinary mortality. In several towns almost all the children were swept away. In some instances large families consisting of eight & nine children were made entirely desolate. The parents in a short time attended them all to the grave, & had neither son nor daughter left. The country was filled with mourners & bitter affliction."

Dr. Trumbull also states that there existed a sad want of interest in

\* Col. Rec. of Conn., Vol. 7, p. 493.

the cause of vital Christianity. An apathy, such as neither earnest preaching or sudden and alarming deaths could rouse, settled over the churches. The form of religion was kept up, but even professing Christians were cold and lukewarm. Worldliness prevailed; family worship was neglected, and the Lord's day sadly profaned. "The young people made the evenings after the Lord's day, & after lectures, the time for their mirth & company-keeping. Taverns were haunted, intemperance & other vices increased, & the spirit of God appeared to be awfully withdrawn." Many of the clergy preached "a cold, unprincipled & lifeless morality; for when the doctrines of original sin, of regeneration, justification by faith alone, & the other peculiar doctrines were preached, & distinctions made between the morality of Christians originating in evangelical principles, faith & love, & the morality of heathens, the people were offended, & became violent opposers."\*

A very important step was taken during this year in regard to the sale of the parsonage lands lying in the town of Fairfield. In February of the previous year it had been voted at a town meeting "that the parsonage lands should be disposed of for the use of the ministry," but a large majority voted against it.

At the same time it was voted: "that all the town lands, belonging to the parsonage & ministry, should be appropriated to the support of every ordained minister in the Presbyterian or Congregational religion, in proportion according to the list of estates in every parish in the original bounds of the town of Fairfield, made in the year 1732, & sold in October last to ye General Assembly; only ye west parish & Greenfield Parish to put both their lists together, & divide equally to the support of their ministry. Samuel Couch, Thomas Hill, John Burr, Andrew Burr, Peter Burr, Samuel Wakeman & Benjamin Gilbert were appointed a committee to sell the parsonage land for the use aforesaid."

This subject was again brought before the town this year when the question was raised:

"As to whether the town do allow & confirm the doings of the committee as mentioned in said agreement or covenanted in all the parts thereof, & order the same to be renewed. A vote was passed in the affirmative." It was also, "voted that the parsonage lands should be sold by the committee at a public auction, at such time & places as the committee shall appoint exempting ye lot by ye school house."†

\* Trumbull's Hist. Conn., Vol. 2, p. 137.

† Fairfield Town Votes. It appears that three acres of this parsonage land, lying on the northeast side of the meeting-house green, was sold to the Rev. Noah Hobart for the sum of £300.

The division and sale of these parsonage lands caused no small amount of contention among our ancestors. The members of the Church of England were still regarded as dissenters, and, therefore, were allowed no right or share in their sale; and in this respect they deemed themselves unjustly treated. They were allowed to realize the precise difference between living in England under the control and discipline of church and state, and that of living in New England under the same circumstances. However, they were genuine sons and daughters of the mother country, with all her resolution, grit, perseverance and mettle; and what they could not cure they, in true John Bull style, made up their minds to endure—abiding their time until lawful rights and liberty of conscience to all classes should prevail.

1735. The General Assembly met at Hartford, May 8th, when Major John Burr was elected an Assistant, and Captains Samuel and Andrew Burr were chosen deputies from Fairfield. Mr. Simon Couch was commissioned captain and Mr. Samuel Sherwood ensign of the Green's Farms train-band.

An act was passed directing how the taxes for supporting ministers should be collected, by which the officers of each society "allowed by the Assembly" should annually levy proper taxes upon the parishes for the support of their ministers; and said officers were to receive from an Assistant or Justice of the Peace of the town in which he lived, for a writ to levy and collect such taxes. No minister was to be kept out of his salary longer than two months after his year had expired, when, in such a case, the sheriffs or constables were to levy on the estates of the delinquents, and "pay the same unto such minister." The neglect of this duty subjected the officers to a fine of five pounds from the County Court, "without appeal or review in such cases."\* Non-residents owning improved real estate were also subject to this tax.

Upon the memorial of Chicken, an Indian sagamore living between Fairfield, Danbury, Ridgefield and Newtown, at a place called Lonetown, exhibited a deed of land he had sold to Captain Samuel Couch.

He soon after built a parsonage on the site of the late residence of Miss Eliza Hull. The remainder of his purchase was laid out in building lots, upon one of which his nephew, Justin Hobart, erected a house in 1765, of which event a centennial anniversary was celebrated in 1865 by Mrs. Justin Hobart and her family. This house is at present occupied by Miss Hannah Hobart, a daughter of Mrs. Justin Hobart. The middle lot was built upon by Isaac Tucker in 1766, which afterwards became the residence of the late Edmund Hobart, Esq.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 7, p. 554.



February 18, 1725, showing he had reserved certain part of his land for himself and his children, near his wigwam or dwelling-house, praying the Assembly to appoint a committee to visit and set off to him his lawful rights. Chicken's case was referred to the October Court.\*

Although New Fairfield had been granted to several of the inhabitants of Fairfield in 1710, the Indian wars near the frontiers of the colony, and the objection on the part of some of the owners to its settlement, had prevented any substantial growth of the place. But at this time John Edwards and Gideon Allyn of Fairfield, in behalf of themselves and other proprietors, presented a memorial to the Assembly for a further confirmation of these lands to them. This memorial was also referred to the October session.†

Frequent burglaries and thefts having been committed, an act was passed that any person found guilty of stealing money, goods or chattels to the value of twenty shillings should forfeit to the owners treble their value and be punished by whipping "not exceeding ten stripes." Any person found guilty of breaking into a dwelling-house or shop where goods were sold, or should rob any person, for the first offence, "should be branded in the forehead with the letter B, & have one of his ears nailed to a post & cut off, & also be whipped on the naked body fifteen stripes"; and for the second offence, "should not only be branded with the letter B, but have his other ear cut off & be whipped twenty-five stripes." For a third offence he was to suffer death.‡

Stringent laws were passed in regard to the sale of wine and liquor. A tax of sixpence on every gallon of rum and wine imported into the colony was levied on all retailers and tavern keepers. Less than a quarter of a cask of twenty gallons was not to be sold to anyone, "except retailers and tavern keepers." No retailer was allowed to sell less than a quart of strong liquor, or allow any sold by him to be drunk in his house. Each town was to nominate at the annual town meetings such tavern keepers as they deemed suitable to be retailers, and to appoint a commissioner of excise to collect the excise due from "all retailers of strong drink." Retailers were to be licensed under bonds. Any evasion of these laws was to be punished by a heavy fine. The names of all licensed tavern keepers and retailers were to be posted on their doors. Masters of vessels importing strong liquors into the colony were to pay

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 7, p. 557

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 7, p. 559.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 7, p. 561.

a duty of sixteen pence per gallon, except rum from the West Indies assigned to some person or persons in the colony, when the captain was to pay eight pence per gallon. A tax of twelve pence per gallon was levied on all rum distilled in the colony.\*

At the October session of the General Assembly, Mr. Samuel Sherwood was commissioned lieutenant and Mr. Benjamin Rumsey ensign of the west parish or Green's Farms train-band.

A stringent law was passed imposing a heavy fine upon officers who even for a day's absence neglected attending and regularly training and preparing the troops and foot companies for active service.

The list of taxable estates at Fairfield were valued at £38,288 8s. 6d.

1736. At the meeting of the General Assembly at Hartford, May 13th, Judge John Burr was chosen an Assistant, and Mr. Ebenezer Silliman and Mr. Andrew Burr representatives from Fairfield. Judge John Burr was chosen Judge of the Fairfield County Courts and also Judge of Probate for the District Court. Andrew Burr was appointed Justice of the Peace for the county.

On account of great loss and inconvenience from mischievous persons breaking the bills of credit into halves and quarters so as not to render counterfeiting easily discovered, a stringent law was passed forbidding such injury to the bills, and forbidding the colony treasurer from paying out any such broken bills.

Postmen were granted sixpence per mile.

Mr. Ebenezer Silliman was appointed County Surveyor for Fairfield.

At the meeting of the General Assembly in New Haven, October 14th, a law was passed by which widows and women innocently divorced were, upon the death of their husbands, allowed one-third of their estates, made returnable to the Judge of Probate of the towns in which they lived.

An important, an exciting event (in the history of our town) took place at this time in regard to the settlement of New Fairfield. The proprietors of the tract of land which had been granted to them by the General Assembly in 1707, namely, "Capt. Nathan Gold, Mr. Peter Burr, Capt. John Wakeman, John Edwards, Jonathan Sturges, John Barlow, Gideon Allin, Samuel Wilson, Samuel Jinnigs, Moses Dimon & Joseph Wakeman, all inhabitants of Fairfield," petitioned for a patent for said lands. This patent was granted, "provided the persons mentioned in

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 7, p. 561.

such grant, their associates, heirs & assigns, shall settle on said lands so many good inhabitants as will make up in the whole fifty families within three years next coming.”\*

Here again we find a remote parish springing out of the old Prime Society of Fairfield, and the sons and daughters of our forefathers busy with preparations for new homes among the Indians.

Measures were renewed to christianize the Indians throughout the colony, they having at this time expressed a desire to be instructed in the Christian faith. The following Thanksgiving Day was appointed to collect a contribution in all the parishes in the colony for this object. Mr. Andrew Burr was one of the committee to receive said contributions for Fairfield.

The money which had been appropriated from the sale of the Western Lands for the encouragement and support of good schools of the colony had in some instances been used for the support of the established ministers, of which the Assembly approved, and “released the said school money to the support of the ministry as aforesaid; any former act of this Assembly to the contrary notwithstanding.”

The first meeting-house at Green’s Farms proved at this date too small for the congregation, and the usual arguments and quarrels arose about the precise place for locating a second house of worship; and as they could not come to an agreement in the matter, some of the more energetic members of the parish applied to the legislature, “praying to have a committee appointed to ascertain a place for erecting a meeting-house in said society.”

Mr. John Thomson, Samuel Comstock, & John Bartlet were appointed a committee for this purpose. They at once proceeded to Green’s Farms, & before the session of the Assembly closed reported that they had, “agreeable to their instructions, repaired to said society & ascertained the place to be about four rods & five feet south-westerly from the south-west corner of the school house in said society standing on the west side of Muddy creek, so called; there to the southeast corner of said house.” It was therefore resolved by the Assembly “that the above described place shall be the place for said society to erect their meeting-house upon, & they are hereby ordered to proceed to erect & build said house upon the same.”†

1737. Judge John Burr was again elected an Assistant of the General Assembly, holden at Hartford, May 12th, and Captain Andrew Burr and Mr. Ebenezer Silliman representatives for Fairfield. Judge John Burr

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 8, p. 62.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 8, pp. 124, 142.

was also appointed Judge for the County and for the District Probate Court of Fairfield. Edward Lewis was made surveyor of the county.

Owing to a scarcity of grain, no flour or grain was allowed to be taken out of the colony before the month of June, under a penalty of fifty pounds.

Messrs. Samuel Hanford, Ebenezer Silliman and Seth Samuel Burr, the committee appointed to examine into the land claim of the Indian Sagamore Chicken, which he had reserved to himself and his heirs out of land sold to Captain Samuel Couch, having made a favorable report of Chicken's claim, they were appointed to proceed to lay out his land and report to the October session of the Assembly.\*

The proprietors of New Fairfield were granted town privileges, and to exercise all the voting powers and privileges as proprietors of common and undivided lands under the laws of the colony.†

Mr. Benjamin Gilbert was commissioned lieutenant of the train-band of Greenfield.

An act was passed dividing the sale and settlement of the townships in the Western Lands:

"That all the townships on both sides of the Ousatonnick river, be divided & settled, & that each town on the east side of said river shall be divided into fifty three rights (exclusive of the lands granted to the College, & all former grants of this Court that are surveyed & recorded in the public records of this Colony & are lying in either of said towns of which fifty three rights, one shall be for the use of the ministry, forever, that shall be settled in the town according to the constitution & order of the churches established by the laws of this government regulating ecclesiastical affairs, & one for the first gospel minister settled as aforesaid, & one right for the support of the school in such town; & the same rule shall be attended in every one of said townships, being five in number; & the remaining fifty in said towns, shall be sold at a public vendue to the highest bidders, being of his Majesty's subjects, inhabitants of this Colony, that will settle & inhabit at least three years in such towns, & to no other persons. Further, the two townships on the west side of the Ousatonnick river shall be divided, the north west townships into twenty five rights, & the south west into fifty three rights, & that the same reserves be made in either of them for the ministry, ministers, & school lands, as are resolved into five townships abovesaid.—Any person qualified to purchase an interest in these lands, was required within three years to build & finish an house of eighteen feet square & seven feet stud, & to subdue & fence at least six acres of land in such town where he is a settler or hath a fixed agent, under forfeiture of his purchase. These towns were to be auctioned at the Court Houses of each county town.

The middle town, afterwards called Cornwall, bounded west on Ousatonnick river, was ordered to be sold at the court house in Fairfield on the first Tuesday in February next at one of the clock afternoon, & continue by adjournment until the whole be sold,—

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. VIII., p. 91.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. VIII., p. 100.



John Burr Esqr, Edmund Lewis Esqr, & Mr. Ebenezer Silliman, or any two of them, were appointed a committee to sell the rights, take bonds, give deeds, with defeazances, in manner & form as hereafter in this act shall be directed."\*

It was about the year 1739 that the Rev. Joseph Webb, Jr., son of the Rev. Joseph Webb of Fairfield, was dismissed from the Presbyterian church of Newark and New Jersey and returned to Fairfield. There had arisen a controversy in his parish in respect to the form of administering the Communion. Some of the leading characters in the church declared themselves in favor of the Church of England. A trivial charge was also brought against Colonel Josiah Ogden,† who was repeatedly tried by the Presbytery, with a solemnity far beyond its importance, and always came off triumphant. Mr. John Dickinson of New Jersey was called in to preach upon the occasion and to assist in settling the controversies then in dispute. One point of discussion was the propriety of dismissing the congregation and administering the Sacrament in a private manner. In some way the Rev. John Beach of the Church of England, of Newtown and Reading, Conn., was drawn into a lengthy controversy with Mr. Jonathan Dickinson, "until," the Rev. Dr. Alexander MacWhorter says, "all parties were weary of reading the pamphlets."

In the heat of this controversy many persons became dissatisfied with Mr. Webb, and the major part of his congregation applied to the Presbytery for his dismissal. "One hundred pounds was offered him, with security for an arrears of salary; which proposal he accepted, & was accordingly dismissed." The Rev. Dr. MacWhorter states in his Century Sermon, "the worst thing that could be said against him, in the times of party spirit & tumult, was that he was too peaceable & too good." . . . "In less than two years after his dismissal this worthy & good

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 8, p. 134.

† Col. Josiah Ogden's wheat had been cut down, and was likely all to be lost by long continued rains. A certain Sabbath presenting him with very fine weather, he was induced to draw the grain into his barn on that day, believing it to be a case of necessity, and that he was justified in so doing. The Church thought differently, and tried and censured him. The matter was brought before the Presbytery, and Colonel Ogden was acquitted. But the breach was too wide to be healed thus. Colonel Ogden and some other persons withdrew and were the first materials of which the first Church of England in this town was formed. After this separation, the Rev. Jonathan Dickinson, of Elizabethtown, was called in by the Presbyterians to preach a sermon against the points advocated by the Episcopal Church. This sermon was preached June 2, 1736, and called forth an answer from the Rev. John Beach, Episcopal minister of Newtown, in Connecticut.—Rev. Dr. A. Mac Whorter's Century Sermon preached in 1801 on the settlement of New-ark, N. J.

man came to an untimely end. He & his son were both drowned in crossing Sea-brook ferry on the Connecticut river."

Immediately after the dismissal of Mr. Webb the Presbyterians of Newark, November 6th, appointed a committee to invite the Rev. Aaron Burr of Fairfield to preach as a candidate among them. He accepted their invitation, and gave such general satisfaction that he received a unanimous call January 10, 1737, to preach one year in that church. At the expiration of that time he was ordained their pastor by the Presbytery of New Jersey. Thus Fairfield furnished Newark, New Jersey, with three ministers in succession—namely, the Rev. Samuel Wakeman, the Rev. Joseph Webb and the Rev. Aaron Burr. A Mr. Jabez Wakeman was the fourth minister of Newark, probably a son or grandson of the Rev. Samuel Wakeman of Fairfield. He lived but three years after being called to Newark, and died in 1704, aged twenty-six years.

In the old Parish Record at Fairfield is the following entry:

"Baptized March 1716 Aaron son of Mr. Burr. Burr. A young man, evincing a strong love for study and literature, he was encouraged by his parents to follow those tastes. After a liberal education, he was sent to Yale College, and at the expiration of four years graduated with the highest honors of his class. His proficiency in Greek and Latin was the result, after receiving his first degree, of his being made a resident graduate of the Berkeley Scholarship Fund. He chose the ministry above the other professions, and was licensed as a candidate September, 1736. His first parish was at Greenfield, Mass. After spending a short time at Greenfield, he removed to Hanover, New Jersey. It was from Hanover that he was called to Newark. Soon after settling in Newark he opened a Latin school which in the course of time gained a high reputation.

In 1746 the College of New Jersey was instituted, and the Rev. Jonathan Dickinson was chosen the first President; but to the great grief and distress of its founders he died the next year. In their dilemma the students were removed from Elizabethtown to Newark and placed under the care of Mr. Burr. The literary talent, learning, and public spirit of Mr. Burr far exceeded the most sanguine expectations of his friends. Gov. Belcher in September, 1747, granted a new charter and named the college Nassau Hall, in honor of the Prince of Orange. On the 9th of November, 1748, Mr. Aaron Burr was chosen the President. For eight years he presided over the college with unwearied zeal and from a feeble condition he raised it to one of "illustrious fame."

When it was decided that the seat of the college should be at Princeton the trustees found the people of Newark unwilling to part with their pastor. The question arose "whether the pastoral relation between a minister and people could be dissolved, more than the relation between husband and wife." The trustees pleaded strongly on one side and the people on the other. After a great deal of discussion the logical argument of *argumentum ad hominem* was adopted; and Mr. Burr was allowed to resign his pastoral charge at Newark.

"After much said about the utility, importance & necessity of his removal, the term of *argumentum hominem* was stated by the trustees to the committee of the congregation. All covenants must be entered into by our pastor, & we mutually standing, & each party

ought to enjoy equal rights & privileges in the continuance or dissolution of them. This the committee readily granted. Then the trustees proceeded to lay down their proposition; that whenever a people were dissatisfied with their minister, they sued for his dismissal and obtained it, however much the minister was opposed to it. After stating serious instances in other places, they brought the argument home to their own bosoms, saying: *Did you not dismiss Mr Abraham Pierson, Mr. Pruden, Mr Bowers & Mr. Webb;—all the ministers you ever had except two? And were not the most of them utterly opposed to a dismissal? Were they ever charged either with heresy in doctrine, or immorality in practice? Did they not plead before you their long & faithful services, you depriving them of their bread & their living, & of their incapacity at their time of life, to enter into other business? Did you, in these instances, suppose the agreement between a pastor & congregation bore any similitude to the marriage covenant?* The committee were satisfied; & the candid & judicious part of the congregation agreed that Mr. Burr should be dismissed.”\*

1738. The General Assembly met at Hartford on the 11th of May, when Judge Burr was again chosen an Assistant, Mr. Ebenezer Silliman and Captain Andrew Burr representatives. Judge John Burr was also chosen Judge of the County and Probate Courts, and Samuel Couch and John Read Justices of the Peace for Fairfield County.

Mr. Elnathan Peet was commissioned lieutenant, Mr. Daniel Brinsmead cornet player and Mr. William Patterson quartermaster of the Fairfield County troops.

Captain Andrew Burr was appointed with Theophilus Nichols to meet the Commissioners of the Province of New York and Rhode Island at Norwich, to make a reply to letters from the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, and to make a report to them of the laws which governed the colony, and what kind of money was used.

On account of the low circumstances of the Presbyterian parish of Reading, in Fairfield, the Court remitted their county taxes for four years.

At the October session of the General Assembly, held at New Haven, Mr. Seth Samuel Burr was commissioned captain, Mr. Samuel Squire lieutenant, and Mr. Nathaniel Silliman ensign of the first train-band of Fairfield. The usual fall nominations for the spring election were made.

Each of the seven new townships of the Western Lands were granted full town and parish privileges, and the several committees appointed to sell them were ordered to deliver all the bonds by them taken for the

\* On the 29th of June, 1752, President Aaron Burr was married to Miss Esther Edwards, daughter of Rev. Jonathan Edwards of Stockbridge, Mass. On the 3d of May following a daughter was born who received the name of Sarah, and on the 6th of February, 1756, was born in his uncle's, Isaac Burr's, house at Fairfield, Aaron Burr who afterwards became a noted actor in the history of our country.

payment thereof to the treasurer of the colony, taking his receipts for the same, which receipts were to be delivered to the Secretary of the colony.\*

The clergy and members of the Church of England throughout the colony felt very keenly the injustice of not being allowed any benefit whatever from the sale of the new townships, and in consequence the clergy sent the following account to the Secretary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. Their letter is dated March 29, 1739, in which they set forth:

"That the several methods of the legislature & of the members of the Presbyterian & Congregational churches to elude any attempt made by the Churchmen to obtain their rights: among which they refer to certain funds in each town to be let out to use for raising the salaries of the ministers without any tax upon the people; the sale of public land to each parish except the Church of England; the sale of seven new townships of common lands belonging to the Colony; the money appropriated either to schools or to what they call the established ministry of the government at the election of the several towns (as will appear by the printed acts for this purpose;) so that according to their sense of the law, we of the Church of England are excluded from any benefit of that sale. They also appropriate the loan of their last commission of £50,000 bills of credit to that purpose."

Six hundred and thirty males of the Church of England above the age of sixteen appealed to the General Assembly for their proportions in these interests, which was not granted; consequently, the clergy of the colony applied to the mother country for redress. Their appeal was signed by the Reverends Samuel Seabury, Ebenezer Punderson, John Arnold, Samuel Johnson, J. Whitmore, Henry Caner and John Beach.†

The first Church of England at Fairfield proved at this date "much too little" for the congregation, and measures were taken to erect a new church of larger dimensions. The following vote is recorded in our town records:

"July 27, 1738: Put to vote whether the town will give liberty to the members of the Church of England to erect a house for public worship on the highway *near the old field-gate*, provided Moses Ward of Fairfield release his interest & claim to the proprietors of the said town which he hath to the land granted formerly by said town to Jacob Joy, lying on the meeting-house green; & passed in the affirmative. Put to vote whether the members for erecting the above said Church shall extend the same thirty eight foot north-westerly from Jonathan Sturge's stone fence & no further; & passed in the affirmative.

Put to vote whether Thomas Hill, Samuel Rowland, & Thaddeus Burr shall be a committee for the measuring out the place for the erecting said Church, according to the

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. VIII, pp. 169-171.

† Bishops Hawkes and Perry's Hist. Protestant Episcopal Church in the U. S., p. 137.



aforesaid vote, any two of them to have the power of the whole;—passed in the affirmative.”\*

It is very apparent from the terms of this grant of land that our Puritan ancestors were vigorously opposed to a Church of England being erected on the meeting-house green. In the progress of Christian goodwill, however, it is a somewhat singular fact that St. Paul's Episcopal Church at the present time stands upon the meeting-house green, facing the Congregational meeting-house in undisturbed quietude from any outside influences.

The old field gate referred to in this vote separates the road from Sasco Hill to Fairfield, and lies next to the vacant lot adjoining the late Henry Rowland's estate, on which lot, until burned by the British in 1779, the new church stood. This church when completed was fifty-five feet in length, thirty-five feet in breadth and twenty feet in height, with a handsome steeple and spire of one hundred feet and a good bell of five hundred weight.

The Rev. Mr. Cornwall, in his Historical Discourse on The One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, which he preached at Trinity Church, Southport, August 10, 1851, states:

“The parish of Fairfield had outstripped in some respects the old parish of Stratford, & taken the position of the leading parish in this Colony:—from original papers in the office of the Secretary of State, that of six hundred & thirty-six heads of families, men & women, whose signatures were attached to a petition then presented to the Colonial Assembly from nine parishes under the care of seven missionaries, *one hundred & twenty four*, about one fifth of the whole were under the care of Mr. Caner in Fairfield & Norwalk; & of these *eighty-two*, or more than one-eighth of the whole belonged to Fairfield—& *ninety-two* were under the care of Mr. Beach, missionary of Newtown & Reading.”

1739. At the meeting of the General Assembly at Hartford, on May 10th, Judge John Burr and Mr. Ebenezer Silliman were elected Assistants, and Captain Andrew Burr and Mr. Ebenezer Silliman representatives for Fairfield. Judge John Burr was also appointed Judge of the County and District Probate Court. Captain Samuel Couch, John Read and Samuel Burr were made Justices of the Peace for Fairfield County.

It was reported to the Assembly that the long controversy between the inhabitants of Danbury, Samuel Couch, Daniel Chapman, Thomas Nash, Samuel Gold and Hezekiah Gold, in regard to the south bounds

\* Fairfield Town Votes.

of Danbury and the land adjoining, which had been granted and returned to Captain Couch and his associates, had been annually settled. The Assembly accepted and confirmed the boundaries fixed upon.\*

The summer of 1739 heralded the one hundredth anniversary of the settlement of the town of Fairfield. Contrasting the first, small, rude meeting-house, which was of ample size to hold the entire population of the early settlement, with the churches which had sprung out of the Prime Ancient Society at Stratfield, Green's Farms, Greenfield, Reading, Newtown and New Fairfield our forefathers must have been led to exclaim: "The Lord hath increased & multiplied his people exceedingly! Thou crownest the year with thy goodness: & thy paths drop fatness. They drop upon the pastures of the wilderness; & the little hills rejoice on every side. The pastures are clothed with flocks; the valleys also are covered over with corn; they shout for joy, also they sing. . . . As the eagle stirreth up her nest, fluttering over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings; so the Lord alone did lead him, & there was no strange God with him. . . . Let the wilderness & the cities thereof lift up *their voice*. . . . Let the inhabitants of the rocks sing, let them shout from the top of the mountains."

The pioneer sons and daughters of toil and privation had laid the foundations of a good work, and had been gathered Home to receive the reward of their labors; and now their grandchildren and their children's children are found blessed in all the prosperity of one of the most thriving and influential towns in the colony of Connecticut.

The first care of those who received this goodly inheritance appears to have been to honor the Lord by making the houses erected to His glory as comfortable and beautiful as their means permitted.

"At a church meeting of Christ's Church (preached by Rev. Mr. Nathan Lewis & Mr. Samuel Rowland were chosen deacons. It was also voted that Mr. Lothrop Lewis & Mr. Samuel Rowland be a committee of the Church to take an account of Church stock, which was in the hands of Deacon Dimon.—Notes of Rev. Noah Hobart, Pastor."

In December following Mr. Edward Lewis of Stratford and John Betts of Norwalk were appointed a committee to see and give their opinion whether the meeting-house at Fairfield was worth repairing. They undoubtedly thought it was, and the major part of the society evi-

\* Conn. Rec. Comm. Vol. VIII, p. 205.

dently agreed with them, for they "voted to put in new sills, two tiles between the posts, excepting where the doors are & that square where the pulpit is dark. The meeting-house to be covered with white wood sidings; the seats to be put closer together; & pews to be built in convenient places, & to be sold to pay for these repairs."

Who should be allowed to occupy the new square, high-backed pews became a serious question among the Fairfielders, and resulted in a committee being called in from Norwalk and Stratford, "to determine who had the most right to them and what price should be paid for them. Their decision did not satisfy, however, some having been left without pews; consequently, they proceeded to build pews "something like them" on their own responsibility; the Society ordered them "to be removed & such persons to be hereafter prosecuted." It was "voted that no person should hire a pew who was not the head of a family; that no one should hire more than one, and that no one should bid for one unless he belonged to Mr. Hobart's meeting."\*

At the meeting of the Assembly in New Haven, October 11th, Sergeant John Read was commissioned captain, Mr. Stephen Burr lieutenant and Mr. Samuel Sandford ensign "for the train-band of the parish of Reading, in the town of Fairfield."†

A threatened war between England and Spain led the Assembly to place the colony on an organized war basis. Governor Joseph Talcott was "for the time being" made Captain-General, and Deputy Governor Jonathan Laws Lieutenant-General of the military forces of the colony. All the military companies were to be gathered into regiments. Thirteen regiments were formed in the colony. The companies of Fairfield, Stratford, Danbury and Newtown were to be distinguished by the name of "The Fourth Regiment." Each regiment was to have a Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel and a Major, to be commanded by the Governor. Regiments found without cavalry were to form a troop of *horse* not to exceed sixty-four men, under the direction of the chief officer, who was also to assist them in the choice of their officers and refer their selections to the General Assembly for approval and commission. John Burr was appointed and commissioned Colonel by the Assembly; Edmund Lewis, Lieutenant-Colonel, and Andrew Burr Major of the Fourth Regiment.‡

\* Fairfield Parish Record.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. VIII, p. 260.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. VIII, p. 279.

The colonial laws of interstate estates had run their course with the approval of England. A committee was appointed to assist the Governor in preparing an address to be set before the king. Major John Burr was requested to take out the necessary papers in the Probate Court of Fairfield to be sent to the king.\*

For the defence of New London and the seacoast towns, ten good cannon were ordered for the battery there, also eight carriages and eight swivel guns, suitable to furnish a sloop of seventy tons. The sum of eleven hundred pounds was granted out of the colony treasury for perfecting this order. Fairfield should have been defended in like manner, being too remote from New London to receive much benefit from either her fortifications or her small armed vessel.

The expected war between England and Spain reached a climax before the year closed, as England declared war against Spain October 23, 1739.

Officers were appointed in each town to call forth and examine the arms and ammunition of those by law obliged to bear arms, and make a report to the major of each regiment.

The taxable estates of Fairfield were valued at £37,793 7s. 9d.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. VIII, p. 283.



## CHAPTER XI

1740—1750

### WAR BETWEEN ENGLAND, FRANCE AND SPAIN

Religious awakening.—Rev. George Whitefield.—New Lights.—Revivals.—Assistants and deputies of 1740.—Proclamation of war.—Soldiers raised.—Bills of credit issued.—Taxes laid.—Stratfield exempt from Fairfield school and ministers' taxes.—New Fairfield meeting-house.—Incorporated a town.—Hemp, canvas, and linen.—Bills of credit.—Volunteers for war.—Deserters punished.—Military officers.—Colonial laws sent to England.—1741.—Expedition against West Indies.—Colony and military officers.—Embargo on grain, etc.—Military preparations.—Sale of western lands for schools.—Prayers for King and Royal family.—Fresh troops sent to Cuba.—Sloop Defence.—Invasion of Georgia.—Rev. Daniel Chapman's death.—1742.—Colony and military officers.—Probate seal.—College license.—License for ministers.—Old Lights and New Lights.—Church of England convention at Fairfield.—Green's Farms meeting-house, seatings, and bell.—Reading meeting-house.—Greenfield Hill meeting-house.—1743.—Colonial and military officers.—Ecclesiastical law for dissenters.—Fourth Regiment officers.—Preparations for war.—Fairfield taxes.—1744.—Political and military officers.—Superior Court at Fairfield.—War between England and France.—Military officers and troops raised to assist New York.—Powder money tax.—Friendly Indian badges.—Punishment for officers and soldiers.—Fairfield doomed.—1745.—French expedition against Louisburg.—Assembly of February.—Expedition against Cape Breton and neighborhood.—Volunteers raised.—Sloop Defence and transports prepared.—Major Andrew Burr.—Colonel of forces.—April 3d a fast day.—Bills of credit issued.—Political and military officers.—Reinforcements.—Bills of credit issued.—Commanding officers.—Commodore Warren's course.—Expedition sailed.—Orders from England.—Louisburg and Cape Breton taken.—Great rejoicing in colonies.—Valuable prizes.—Fisheries preserved.—Col. Andrew Burr's regiment maintained at Louisburg.—Connecticut requests share in prize money, etc.—1746.—England resolved to conquer Canada, and France to retake her possessions.—Officers of the civil and military appointments.—Care of disabled soldiers.—Fresh officers and soldiers raised to attack Canada.—Day of fasting and prayer ordered.—Bills of credit.—Troops to protect frontier towns.—Expedition against Crown Point.—French fleet.—Alarm on New England coast.—Disasters and failure of French fleet.—New England dissatisfied and alienated from England.—Enterprise and bravery of Fairfield men and women.—Political and military officers.—Protection of currency, trade, and lumber.—Bounty to Indian allies.—Oath of allegiance and supremacy.—Estates of Fairfield.—Agreement to defend English colonies.—French attack on English possessions and failure.—Indian depredations.—Ecclesiastical affairs.—1748.—Political and military officers.—Rev. Henry Caner goes to Boston.—Rev. Joseph Lamson.—Death of Rev. Samuel Cook.—Rev. Lyman Hall.—New church.—Cross-highway.—St. John's Church, Stratfield.—Reading meeting-house.—Rev. Mr. Beach.—Death of Rev. Mr. Hunn.—New Fairfield's tax for church.—Tax for Yale College.—Ecclesiastical laws.—1749.—Political and military officers.—Treaty of peace between England, France, and Spain.—Louisburg ceded back to France.—Depreciation of currency.—England called upon for assistance and reim-

bursament.—Taxes raised to pay England's war expenses.—Henry Jackson's adventures.—John Sagamore Chicken decided his land at Pequot.

1740. STIRRING events prevailed both in church and state at this time. In the established church of the colony, where a mild indifference had been manifested in many parishes, to the great sorrow of their leading ministers and officers, a general religious awakening now took place. This awakening was begun in 1735, at Northampton, Massachusetts, in the parish of the distinguished Rev. Jonathan Edwards, was rekindled at this time and spread over almost all parts of Connecticut. "It extended to old & young, to gray-haired sinners, who had long accustomed themselves to sin, & grown old in their iniquities; & even to little children. Negroes & Indians were touched with the spirit of inquiry for the welfare of their souls. The young people forsook their thoughtless pleasures, & sought the hallowed duties of the Sabbath. The neglected places of worship were sought out by all classes, not only on the Lord's day, but on lecture days. Sometimes the itinerant preachers were followed by a multitude of people from town to town. Many extraordinary instances are related of the conversions which took place at Enfield, under the preaching of the Rev. Jonathan Edwards."\*

It was about this time that the Rev. George Whitefield visited some of the New England towns. He had been ordained in the Church of England, and in 1738 had preached with great power in some of the southern American colonies, and afterwards in England and Scotland. He landed, on this his second visit to America, at Philadelphia in the early part of November, 1739. People from all quarters flocked to hear him. After spending a few days in Philadelphia, he accepted an invitation from several gentlemen in New York to visit that city, where he preached eight times with great effect. On his return to Philadelphia he preached in the principal cities and towns of New Jersey. From Philadelphia he proceeded to Georgia by land, preaching on the way as he traveled from place to place. The following description of Mr. Whitefield is given by Dr. Trumbull:

"He is of a sprightly, cheerful temper; acts & moves with great agility & life. The endowments of his mind are very uncommon, his wit is quick & piercing, his imagination lively & florid; & both, as far as I can discern, under the direction of an exact & solid judgment. He has a most ready memory, & I think speaks entirely without notes. He has a clear & musical voice, & a wonderful command of it. He uses much gesture, but

\* Trumbull's Hist. Conn., Vol. II, p. 143.

with great propriety. Every accent of his voice, every motion of his body speaks, & both are natural & unaffected. If his delivery is the product of art, it is certainly the perfection of it; for it is entirely concealed. He has great mastery of words, but studies much plainness of speech.

His doctrine is right sterling; I mean perfectly agreeable to the articles of the Church of England, to which he often appeals for the truth of it. He loudly proclaims all men by nature to be under sin, & obnoxious to the wrath & curse of God. He maintains the absolute necessity of supernatural grace to bring men out of this state. He asserts the righteousness of Christ to be the alone cause of justification of a sinner; that this is received by faith; & that this faith is the gift of God; & that where faith is wrought, it brings the sinner, under the deepest sense of his guilt & unworthiness, to the footstool of sovereign grace, to accept of mercy as the free gift of God, only for Christ's sake. He asserts the absolute necessity of the new birth: This new production is solely the work of God's blessed spirit: That wherever it is wrought it is a permanent & abiding principle, & that the gates of hell shall never prevail against it."

His preaching at Boston delighted the Rev. Messrs. Coleman, Cooper, Sewell & Prince. The assemblies, which at first were small, soon became so large that there was no church or building of sufficient size to contain them; & he often preached on the common. He extended his visits to the neighboring towns & villages. It was supposed that his hearers at his last sermon, when he took leave of the town, were not less than twenty thousand.

Upon leaving Boston he went to Northampton, preaching his way in all the principal towns in Massachusetts. He was received with great joy by the Rev. Jonathan Edwards; & his preaching had a remarkable effect upon the people of Northampton.

"Many cried out & sunk down under awakenings; others were overcome with joy, & fainted under the views which they had of the exceeding glory & excellency of their Saviour, & of divine truths & beauties."

From Northampton Mr. Whitefield preached in several of the Connecticut towns. On the 23d of October he reached New Haven. As the General Assembly was in session, he remained in that city over Sunday, and preached daily to large and deeply interested gatherings.

Leaving New Haven, he preached at Milford, Stratford, Fairfield, Norwalk, Stamford and other places, arriving in New York on the 13th of October.

A large number of the ministers in the Congregational and Presbyterian churches approved of Mr. Whitefield's style of preaching, but there were some greatly opposed to him. Among those who favored the religious revival in the counties of Fairfield and Litchfield were the Rev. Mr. Mills of Ripton, Graham of Woodbury, Farrand of Canaan and Bellamy of Bethlehem. The missionaries of the Church of England were in every way opposed to revivals of any kind.

The Rev. Mr. Caner wrote from Fairfield to the Secretary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel:

"Enthusiasm has made no progress in Fairfield, & the effect of it at Stamford, Norwalk, Ridgefield &c. where it for a time spread, has been the persuading some & considerate people to the Communion of our Church. In order to prevent as much as possible the spreading of enthusiasm, both now & hereafter among us, I have applied myself closely to catechizing both young & old, who do not appear to have sufficiently digested the grounds of our most holy faith; the catechumens being divided into three classes, are examined & instructed according to their several improvements every Lord's day after sermon in the afternoon."

The spirit of revival was carried on, however, after Mr. Whitefield left New England by several of the Congregational and Presbyterian ministers. Dr. Trumbull states, "This glorious work of God which has effected such a wonderful reformation of manners through the country, was marred & greatly injured by many impediments & irregularities. It was most violently opposed by ministers, by magistrates, by cruel & persecuting laws, by reproach & misrepresentation, & all other ways & means, which its adversaries could invent."

Many exhorters sprang up among the people of the colony after Mr. Whitefield's visit, particularly at New London and Windham, who were governed by impulse and imaginary insight into the spiritual condition of men's souls, even going so far as to pretend to know who were converted and who were not. A description of the manner in which these *ranters* or *new lights*, as they were called, proceeded is given by the Rev. Mr. Punderson, a clergyman of the Church of England settled at New Groton. His letter is dated December 12, 1741, and addressed to the Secretary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. Of these men he thus wrote:

"There have been a great number of vagrant preachers, the most remarkable of whom is Mr. Davenport of Long Island, who came to New London in July, proclaiming your ministers unconverted; & by his boisterous behaviour & vehement crying, 'Come to Jesus,' many were *struck*, as the phrase is, & made the most terrible & affecting noise, that was heard a mile from the place. He came to this society, acted in the same manner five days; was followed by innumerable [people]; some could not endure the house, saying, that it sounded more like the infernal regions than the place of worshipping the God of Heaven; after the amazing horror & distress that seized them, they received comfort (as they term it). Five or six of these young men in the society are continually going about, converting, as they call it, their fellow men; two of these act as their minister so they affirm. Their meetings are almost every night, in this & the neighboring parishes, & the most astonishing effects attend them: screeching, faintings, convulsions, visions, apparent death for 20 or 30 hours, actual possession with evil spirits, as they own themselves. The spirit in all is remarkably bitter against the Church of England. Two who were *struck*, & proceeded in this way of exhorting & praying, until actually possessed, came to me, & asked the same questions: *Are you born again?* Have you the witness of the spirit? &c:



& as they all do, used the same texts of Scripture, taught by the same doctrines; called on Beelzebub, the prince of devils; & in their possession, burnt about £1,200. They have since been to me, & asked my forgiveness; & bless God that He has restored them to the spirit of a sound mind."

April 20, 1743, the Rev. Mr. Beach of Reading reported to the Honorable Society in England:

"My people are not at all shaken, but rather confirmed in their principles by the spirit of enthusiasm that rages among the Independents about us, & many of the dissenters observing how steadfast our people are in their faith & practice, have conceived a better opinion of our Church than they formerly had. . . . There is scarcely a town in which there is not a considerable number professing themselves of the Church of England, & very desirous of having it settled among them, but God only knows when & how they can be provided for. Were there in this country but one of the Episcopal order, to whom young men might apply for ordination, without the expense & danger of a voyage to England, many of our towns might be supplied, which now must remain destitute, numbers of serious people of our Church lamenting their unhappiness, that they can rarely enjoy that worship which they hunger & thirst after, there being so small a number of clergymen in this country."

Dr. Trumbull states that Mr. John Davenport of Long Island, having become zealous beyond measure, came to Connecticut, & preached in many places; "He gave an unrestrained liberty to noise & outcry, both of distress & joy in time of divine service. He promoted both with all his might, raising his voice to the highest pitch, together with the most violent agitation of body. With his unnatural & violent agitation of the body, he united a strange singing tone which mightily tended to raise the feelings of the weak & undiscerning people, & consequently to lighten the confusion among the passionate of his hearers. This odd, disagreeable tuning of the voice, in exercises of devotion, became a characteristic of the separate preachers. The whole sect was distinguished by this sanctimonious one. It was Mr. Davenport's manner, when a number had cried out, & there had been a great agitation of body, to pronounce them tokens of divine favor; & what was still worse, he would declare those pious persons who were subjects of those outcries & agitations, to be converted; or that they had come to Christ; which were gross & dangerous errors. Bodily agitations & outcries were no evidences of grace. He was further the great encourager, if not the first setter up of public exhorters, not restricting them according to the gospel rule of brotherly exhortation; but encouraging any who were reputed to be lively, zealous christians, to exhort publicly in full assemblies, with ministerial assurance & authority, though altogether raw & unskilled in the word of righteousness. What is still a more mischievous influence than all the rest, was his undertaking to examine his brethren in the ministry, as to their spiritual state, & publicly to decide concerning them, whether they were converted or unconverted. Such as refused to be examined by him, were certainly denounced as either unconverted, or in a very doubtful condition. Thus disorder, jealousy & confusion, were sown in the churches. He represented it as a dreadful thing to hear unconverted ministers; that their preaching was worse than poison; & he warned the people against it.

"At Boston this strange man withdrew from the Holy Communion, because he had scruples as to the conversion of the officiating minister. He was brought before the General Court of Mass., & dismissed, as not being of a sound mind. He was soon after expelled from Connecticut. Many errors sprang up in consequence of the evil seed he had sown;

& a most unhappy division & in several instances separation took place in some of the churches. A spirit of contempt for *revivals* was *early* manifested by the *poor* of *many*, among whom the very name of revival became offensive. It was termed: 'a distemper which affected the mind & filled it with unnecessary concern & gloominess;' by others it was called the work of the Devil; by others quakerism, enthusiasm, antinomianism & distraction. They were also called *new lights*, following an *ignis fatuus*, which would lead them to destruction."

Many of the principal ministers, the magistrates & leading gentlemen in the Connecticut Colony were bitterly opposed to this new style of preaching, & bent every energy to suppress it, confining by law the ministers to their individual churches, & keeping, as far as possible, the over-zealous preachers out of the Colony.\*

"The winter of 1740 is said to have been a *hard* winter of *Yorck*. The ground was covered with snow to the tops of the fences for forty days. It did not snow the least on the sunny side of the house & snow fell about the middle of December which buried a pair of oxen at the Old Fort, owned by Samuel Gold. They were found by their breathing holes. The harbor continued frozen from that time to the middle of March. Capt. Bostwick & Capt. Dimon were loaded for the West Indies, sailed just as winter set in. Bostwick was ready, but delaying one night was frozen in, & had to cart hay to his stock for 3 months. When going out of the Sound he found Dimon returning."†

At the meeting of the General Assembly at Hartford, May 8th, Judge John Burr and Judge Ebenezer Silliman were present from Fairfield as Assistants, and Major Andrew Burr and Captain John Read, Jr., as deputies. Major Andrew Burr was made Clerk of the House.

Judge John Burr was appointed Judge of the County Courts of Fairfield, as well as of the Probate Court of the district.

Mr. Samuel Sturgis was made surveyor of the County of Fairfield.

England having declared war against Spain October 23, 1739, two letters from the Duke of New Castle, one of the King's Secretaries of State, were laid before the Assembly by Governor Joseph Talcott, ordering "an inclosed proclamation of war to be published in the colony against the Catholic King of Spain, his vassals, & subjects, & also that an expedition was forming against the Spanish West Indies & Dominions in America."

The Governor, therefore, issued a Proclamation of War. All who would volunteer to serve in the expedition by his Majesty's command were to be under Colonel Spotwood until joined by the English troops, after which they were to be under the command of Lord Cathcart. How

\* Trumbull's Hist. Conn., Vol. II., pp. 161, 162.

† Wheeler's Journal.

were to be led by officers appointed by the Governor, and to receive his Majesty's commission; to be supplied with arms and clothing; to be paid by his Majesty, and to share in the booty taken from the enemy; that they should be sent back to their homes when the expedition was over, and that those who enlisted and actually served (not exceeding five hundred men) should have five pounds each, a premium paid to them out of the colony treasury.\*

Four thousand pounds of bills of credit was ordered to be struck off from ten shillings to five pounds, on the *new plates*, bearing the date of the assembly, and signed by the Governor and a committee appointed to execute this order. This money was to be paid into the hands of the colony treasurer for the encouragement of volunteer soldiers to enlist for the war with Spain. For the repayment of this issue a tax was laid of four thousand two hundred pounds on all taxable estates of the colony.†

Upon the memorial of John Edwards and others of the parish of Stratfield of the inconvenience of attending church at their society meeting-house in the winter and spring, and at their school-house, which the said parish obliged them to maintain, and also help support the school therein kept, and praying to be released of this burden, the Assembly granted their petition, and "exempted them from paying anything towards the support of said parish-school & school-house, & that they may have a school among themselves, & have their share of the money to support the school." They were also freed from paying anything towards the ministerial charges of said Society for three months and a half yearly, for five years.‡

Upon a memorial of the inhabitants of New Fairfield praying for liberty to erect a meeting-house, and for a tax upon the unimproved lands of said town "south of said seven mile line across said town," the Assembly ordered that there should be a tax of four pence per acre laid out for four years next coming; and appointed a committee to fix a place for the meeting-house. Major Andrew Burr of Fairfield was appointed to collect the tax, and improve the same towards building a meeting-house and settling a minister there. New Fairfield, which had been annexed to Fairfield County in 1728, was named in 1740, and regularly incorporated as a town with full town and parish privileges.§ The town was by this vote divided into two parishes. It was not, however, until two

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. VIII, p. 296.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. VIII, p. 300.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. VIII, p. 295.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 8, p. 303.

years after that a minister was settled in another parish, when the Rev. Benijah Case was elected in the lower parish and ordained November 9, 1742. The parish in the upper seven miles, two years later, elected the Rev. Thomas Lewis, who was ordained May 23, 1744.

The fortifications were ordered to be repaired at Saybrook, and £100 was granted for the repairs and mounting suitable guns and supplies of ammunition.

The act passed in 1734 for raising hemp and making canvas and fine linen, having proved profitable, the Assembly ordered a continuation of this act for five years longer.\*

An act was passed for printing thirty thousand pounds in new bills of credit towards meeting the necessary preparations for a proper defence of our borders, seacoasts and navigation and the expenses of the war with the Spanish West Indies, "which bills shall be stamped with such stamps as the Governor & Council shall direct, & signed by a committee of this Assembly." Eight thousand pounds of this issue was ordered to be stamped without delay to pay the immediate debts of the colony; to redeem which a tax of eight thousand four hundred pounds was levied on all taxable estates in the colony, to be collected within the term of five years, in five equal payments. The remaining twenty-two thousand pounds were to be loaned to the inhabitants of the towns with ample security, and to be repaid to the colony in bills, silver or gold, or in good water-rotten hemp, and well wrought canvas or duck, or for making linen. Bonds were required for this loan, and committees appointed in each town to loan and take security for the same. No planter was allowed to borrow more than one hundred or less than twenty-five pounds. Interest on this loan was at the rate of three per cent. per annum, in silver or gold only. Major Andrew Burr and Mr. Thaddeus Burr were appointed a committee to loan out these bills of credit in Fairfield County.†

A special meeting of the Assembly took place at Hartford, July 8th, when Ebenezer Silliman was present as an Assistant, and Major John Burr as deputy for Fairfield. The object of this extra session was to make preparations for an expedition against the Spanish West Indies, Porto Bello, Carthagena and Cuba. The Governor forthwith issued a proclamation calling for volunteers. Major Andrew Burr was appointed to enroll the names of volunteers for Fairfield County.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. VIII, p. 318.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 8, pp. 318-327.



Another issue of fifteen thousand pounds of new tenor bills of credit was voted by the Assembly.

Five thousand pounds of this issue was to be lodged in the hands of the treasurer, to exchange for all true bills struck on any plates made before the year 1733, and such torn bills as were not fit for use, and the remaining ten thousand used towards paying the public debts; to redeem which a tax of ten thousand five hundred pounds was levied on all polls and taxable estate in the colony, to be paid into the treasury on or before August, 1750.

A vessel of seventy-eight or one hundred tons was ordered to be fitted out without delay.

The usual meeting of the Assembly took place in New Haven, October 9th.

An act was passed for punishing deserters of the army.

Major Andrew Burr was granted forty-six pounds five shillings and four pence for his services as commissary. He was also appointed to collect a tax of four pence per acre on all unimproved land at New Fairfield towards building a meeting-house and settling a minister there.\*

Elnathan Peet was commissioned captain, Daniel Brinsmaid lieutenant and William Patterson cornet of the troops in the Fourth Regiment.

Still another Assembly was convened at Hartford, November 26th, to take into consideration and reply to letters from the Lords Commissioners of Trade and Plantations to the Governor and his associates, in which complaints were made of "many indirect practices & illegal currencies, which had been introduced prejudicial to the trade of his Majesty's subjects"; in consequence of which an address was presented to the last session of the House of Commons, that he would be pleased to require and command the respective Governors and Plantations in America effectually to observe the said act of the sixth year of Queen Anne—" & that none of them may pretend ignorance thereof."

It was resolved by the Assembly, that a printed book containing the laws of this government, inclusive of the acts of this session, be prepared & transmitted to their Lordships, by which they might best see the laws that have been made & were in force in the colony. A letter was also prepared by the Governor & Company, in which they courteously transmit to them "a collection of the laws that have been made and are in force in the colony; & do further acquaint them, that the various late issues of bills of credit were in compliance with his Majesty's instructions respecting the expedition to the Spanish West Indies," without which they could not carry out his expectations. That in issuing

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 8, p. 351.

bills of credit, they were by no means influenced in any way prejudicial to his Majesty's intentions, or to his subjects' trade; but like the other colonies in America, had issued them for the absolute expenses of the colony. They informed them that they had repealed the act of May last, by which they had made it obligatory on all persons to take such bills or bonds.\*

An order was passed by the Assembly to the effect "that no bills or credit notes or other currency should be uttered, vended or passed by any person whatsoever, which either have been made or shall be made for a general currency or medium of trade, & emitted on the fund or credit of any private person or persons, society or company, either in this or any of the neighboring governments, under penalty that such person or persons shall forfeit double the sum mentioned on such bills or notes, etc., "provided the act continues in force until the rising of the Assembly May next & no longer."†

Meanwhile Great Britain made every possible preparation for the success of the expedition against the Spanish West Indies, which was placed under the command of Lord Cathcart. "Twenty-five ships of the line & frigates, fire ships, bomb catchers & tenders under the command of Sir Choloner Ogle, besides hospital ships, & ships loaded with provisions, ammunition & all sorts of war implements, set sail in October for the West Indies." This fleet formed a junction at Jamaica with Vice-Admiral Vernon January 9th, when the entire fleet consisted of "twenty-nine ships of the line, with nearly the same number of frigates, fire ships & bomb catchers, with ample supplies of provisions & stores, & with fifteen thousand seamen. The land forces, including the four American colony regiments, were not less than twelve thousand. Meanwhile Lord Cathcart had died in the West Indies. Vernon in November had taken Porto Bello, on the Isthmus of Darien, and demolished its fortifications. The death of Cathcart was regarded a great blow to the success of the undertaking, as the chief command of the army fell upon General Wentworth, a man of a most violent temper and prejudices, and one who possessed a great hatred for the French. In order to indulge his dislike of the French, he attempted to intercept a squadron sent out under the Marquis d'Autin to reinforce the Spaniards. But his venture proved a failure, as d'Autin had sailed back to France." The winter proved unusually severe, and there must have been great suffering among the troops and sailors of the fleet. General Wentworth, disappointed in his

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. VIII, pp. 352, 356, 361.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 8, p. 353.

search for the French fleet, decided to make an assault upon Carthagera, which was reached about March 10th, but during the loss of three months' time by Wentworth the fortifications had been reinforced by the French. Both Admiral Vernon and General Wentworth attacked the town from March 10th to the middle of April, demolishing the forts and castle of the harbor, into which Admiral Vernon entered. General Wentworth made an attack by land, but his troops were obliged to retire, "with a loss of from four to five hundred men. The expedition succeeded in destroying six Spanish men of war, eight galleons & some small ships." In July they sailed for Cuba, and took possession of a fine harbor, but severe sickness overtook them, which proved a scourge, and all further hostilities were necessarily suspended. "More than a thousand men died daily. Of nearly one thousand men from New England, not one hundred returned. Of five hundred from Massachusetts, fifty only returned."\*

Judge Ebenezer Silliman was present at the meeting of the General Assembly, May 14th. and Major Andrew Burr and Captain Samuel Burr as deputies. Judge John Burr was made Judge of the District Probate Court, and of the County Courts of Fairfield.

Mr. Samuel Rowland was commissioned captain, Mr. John Dimon lieutenant and Mr. John Sherwood ensign of the train-band of the parish of Stratfield, in the town of Fairfield.

Fearing a famine might occur in the colony, an act was passed to prevent the exportation of grain, flour and bread-stuffs, except for ships of war, privateers or merchant vessels in his Majesty's service or subjects; which act was to continue for seventy days after the proclamation to this effect was issued.

Every town was ordered to call forth and train its militia and troops for readiness in case of an invasion from the enemy. Every male from sixteen to fifty years of age was required to bear arms and duly attend all musters and military exercises of the respective troops or companies in which they were enlisted, under the usual penalty prescribed by law.†

It was ordered that the money given for the several towns laid out in the Western Lands of Connecticut should be disposed of for the benefit of the public schools in the colony. The selectmen, where there was but one ecclesiastical society in a town, and where there was more

\* Trumbull's Hist. Conn., Vol. II, pp. 267, 268.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. VIII, pp. 379-387.

than one society the societies' committees were empowered to receive the bonds and moneys which should be divided and set out to the several towns and parishes, for the benefit of public schools, and the selectmen with the committees were ordered to give a receipt of the same to the Secretary of the colony.

In October six of the new townships had been sold, for which bonds had been given to the Governor and Company amounting to a considerable sum. Joseph Whiting, Jonathan Trumbull, Captain Joseph Dalton, Mr. John Richards and *Major Andrew Burr* were appointed a committee to divide and distribute this money to the several towns and parishes of the established churches of the colony, for the benefit of the public schools. If any debtor refused, after the bonds were divided, to pay his bonds or to renew the same, the King's attorney in each county, in the name of the Governor & Company, was empowered to prosecute the same. "Provided that the risk & losses that may happen after the 1 day of January, 1743, shall not be borne by the government, but by the towns & parishes, to whom the same bonds thus failing were divided & distributed."\*

At the same time an order was read from the Council held at St. James Court, January 29, 1740, that in all public services the members of the royal family should be prayed for, according to the general usage in England. The Assembly ordered "that obedience be paid to this order, and a copy of the act be printed and sent to the several churches in the colony, and by them published in all places of divine worship."

The repeal of the laws passed in October, 1740, in regard to issuing bills of credit, on private credit, which was to last until the sitting of this court, was revised to remain in full force until the Assembly should order otherwise.†

Demand having been made by England for additional recruits to be sent to Cuba, the Assembly ordered that volunteers be called for, not to exceed two hundred, with a grant of money to pay their expenses. The war sloop "Defence," which had been built and armed for the use of the colony, was ordered to be placed in readiness to convey the recruits prepared to go on this expedition.

Until Spain ceased to claim sovereignty over the American seas, England resolved "never to make peace with her." Governor Ogelthorpe of Georgia fitted out an expedition of regular troops and Indians

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 8, pp. 387-389, 392.

† C. C. Rec. Conn. Vol. 8, p. 392.



against Florida, "but for want of a sufficient naval force was obliged to give up the undertaking." The Spaniards in turn invaded Georgia, but were beaten off by the skilful manœuvres of Ogelthorpe.

During this year the Rev. Daniel Chapman of Green's Farms died. His life among his congregation had been one of great usefulness and of general satisfaction. He was succeeded soon after by the Rev. Edward Buckingham of Milford.

1742. At the meeting of the General Assembly at Hartford, May 13th, Judge Ebenezer Silliman was present as an Assistant from Fairfield, and Major Andrew Burr and Captain Samuel Burr as deputies. Major Andrew Burr was chosen Speaker of the House.

Judge John Burr was chosen Judge of the Fairfield County Courts and of the Probate Court of the district, and Captain Samuel Burr one of the auditors of the colony treasurer's accounts.

An act was passed that the Superior Courts, the County Courts and the Probate Courts of the colony should be provided with a proper seal, for the use of said courts.\*

In order to overcome the evil of unlicensed, ignorant, itinerant ministers preaching and teaching in the colony, whereby disturbances and dissensions had been made, it was made a law:

"That if any ordained minister, or any other licensed person, should enter into any parish, not under his charge, & preach or exhort to the people, he should be denied & secluded the benefit of any law of the Colony made for the support of the regular gospel ministry, unless invited by ministers of parishes, & the major part of their societies, or be liable to be bound over by an assistant, or justice of the peace, in the sum of one hundred pounds, or be 'sent as a vagrant person, from constable to constable, out of the bounds of this colony.'" †

At the meeting of the General Assembly in New Haven, in October, an act was passed forbidding the erection of any college or public school than those erected and established by the laws of the colony, without a special license from the General Assembly for four years.‡ This act was designed to reach a class of people who called themselves separatists or *New Lights*, from the requirements of the established church of the colony in matters of conscience and belief, as well as the Moravian missionaries, who had settled in the colony; and also to prevent mischief done by unfit persons to teach or preach.

\* Such a seal was seen by the author a few years ago in the Probate Court of Fairfield.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. VIII, p. 454.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. VIII, p. 500.

The Old Lights generally taught the doctrines of the Church of England as contained in the thirty-nine Articles and the doctrines of the Westminster Catechism. They were willing to baptize the children of those who owned the Covenant. They favored family religion, and preached but little on the profound subjects of election, foreordination, free-will and predestination. They favored cheerful social entertainments, and balls and dancing when conducted in a proper and becoming manner. The election ball, when a new minister was elected, was an exceedingly grand occasion, which even the ministers and all the church dignitaries and people of state attended. The stately minuet was danced by the leading matrons and statesmen of the church, and that which was regarded but a simple and healthful amusement was counted by them no sin.

The New Lights, on the other hand, were opposed to children being baptized on their parents simply owning the Covenant. They preached frequently on the doctrines of election, foreordination, free-will and predestination. They favored conference meetings in place of family religion, and were strongly opposed to balls, assemblies and dancing generally.

The clergy of the Church of England in the colony of Connecticut met at Fairfield in the spring of 1742, and prepared a petition to the Bishop of London to appoint a commissary to be sent to America. The Rev. Dr. Samuel Johnson was proposed for this office. Their letter to the Bishop of London was dated Fairfield, August 24, 1742, and signed by Henry Caner, Samuel Seabury, Ebenezer Ponderson, Richard Caner and John Beach. The commissary, however, was not granted, and the clergy and laymen of the Church of England were left to hope for their benefit as something yet to be obtained.

The new church at Green's Farms, which had been raised in 1738 and was now completed, brought the good people into serious trouble. It appears from the parish records that pews were built around the wall, in which, according to their social rank, the honorable men of the parish and their families were to be seated. According to the usual custom of those days, when trouble arose in a parish, disinterested men were called in to settle the cause in dispute. Here, however, was a far more difficult question to decide than that of setting out a certain parcel of land upon which to erect a church. There were persons who felt themselves to be in every way entitled to an aristocratic pew, who had no pews at all assigned them.

Again in 1743 a parish meeting was called & it was: "Put to vote whether or no yt whereas there is disorder in the meeting-house concerning ye pews, Do appoint Andrew Burr & Thadeus Burr of Fairfield a committee to regulate sd. pews, by cutting sd. pews or building more pews in sd. house, or both; also provided yt if sd. committee do order more pews to be built, to say who shall have ye same, provided, they build them upon their own cost." Peace was restored by the addition of a few more pews. Capt. Solomon Couch was "allowed to sit in the public pew on ye east side of the pulpit, so long as he sets the psalms."

For twenty years the roll of the drum on the summit of Clapboard Hill called the Green's Farms planters and their families to meeting, but in 1743 a bell was provided, no doubt to the delight of all who listened to its welcome sound.

The people of Reading had also been active in repairing their meeting-house. In 1740 it was "voted to rectify the meeting-house in the following articles, viz.: to put in new glass where it is wanted, & to mend the old. To lay some beams in the gallery & double floor. To fasten the meeting-house doors; to make the stairs up the gallery; to put a rail on the foreside of the gallery." In 1741 it was "voted to seat the meeting-house in the lower part with plain strong seats;" & in 1742 the parish committee were "impowered to agree with a person to beat the drum, as a signal to call the people together on the Sabbath."

1743. The new meeting-house at Greenfield Hill was also completed. Here the wisdom of the church members, or the experience which they derived from the trouble of their neighbors at Green's Farms, led them to vote in September "That those persons who had paid the most towards building the meeting-house, shall have pews laid out to them; & that every man who has a pew laid out shall be at the charge of building the same."

This plan was carried out, and the following were the list of pew holders:

Joseph Wheeler, pew No. 1.  
Benjamin Banks, No. 2.  
Joseph Diamond, No. 3.  
Nathaniel Hull, No. 4.  
Daniel Bradley, No. 5.  
Benjamin Gilburt, No. 6.  
John Thorp, No. 7.  
Joseph Banks, No. 8.  
Samuel Wakeman, No. 9.

Daniel Burr, No. 10.  
John Gilbert, No. 11.  
Samuel Bradley, No. 12.  
Benjamin Sherwood, No. 13.  
Heirs of Eliphalet Hull, No. 14.  
Joseph Hill, No. 15.  
Jabez Wakeman, No. 16.  
David Williams, No. 17.  
Samuel Price, No. 18.

In confirmation thereof we have consented to set our hands & seals this 23 day of Sep.  
1743.

Committee for assigning the seats,

ANDREW BURR  
SAMUEL BURR  
JOSEPH WAKEMAN

At the same time it was: "Voted that Mr. Samuel Bradley shall get a bell for said Meeting House, & said bell shall be tolled at the minister's command of said Governor."

The General Assembly met at Hartford, May 27th. Judge Ebenezer Silliman was present as an Assistant, and Major Andrew Burr and Captain Samuel Burr as deputies. Again Major Andrew Burr was chosen Speaker of the House. Judge John Burr was chosen Judge of the County Court and of the District Probate Court of Fairfield. Judge Ebenezer Silliman was also made one of the auditors of the colony treasury.

The law passed in May, 1742, for persons who differed from the established Church was repealed, having been found too severe.

It was voted:

"That if any one of his Majesty's subjects shall soberly dissent from the way of worship & ministry established by the laws of this colony, being protestant inhabitants of this colony, by applying to this Assembly for relief shall be heard. And such persons as have any distinguishing character, by which they be known from the presbyterians or congregationalists, & from the consociated churches established by the laws of this colony, may expect the indulgence of this Assembly, having first before this Assembly taken the oaths & subscribed the declaration provided in the Act of Parliament in cases of like nature."\*

At the October session of the Assembly, in New Haven, Joseph Worster was commissioned lieutenant, Hezekiah Treadwell cornet and Daniel Sherwood quartermaster of the troops of the Fourth Regiment.

Mr. Daniel Bradley was commissioned ensign of the train-band of the parish of Greenfield. Mr. Nathaniel Silliman was commissioned lieutenant and Mr. Abraham Morehouse ensign of the first train-band of Fairfield.†

Although, under the Treaty of Utrecht, the French in 1713 professed peace with England, they rendered every possible assistance to Spain. War seemed, therefore, inevitable with France. The Lords Justices ordered the colony to be put in the best posture of defence. A committee of war was appointed to make arrangements for the protection of the frontiers of the colony. The sloop "Defence," commanded by Captain David Worster, was ordered to be made ready, with officers, men and stores for defending the coast. The fort at New London was also to be well prepared for defending the coast. Every effort was made to establish peace with the Indians. The militia of each town were ordered to be placed in readiness for marching orders.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. VIII, p. 522.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. VIII, p. 544.



An act having been passed for the colony expense, the town of Fairfield on December 19th voted to raise a tax of *2d.* on the pound on all taxable estates.

1744. At the meeting of the General Assembly in Hartford, May 10th, Judge Ebenezer Silliman was present as one of the Assistants, and Major Andrew Burr and Mr. Thaddeus Burr as deputies from Fairfield. Major Andrew Burr was again made speaker of the House of Representatives. Judge John Burr was continued in his office of Judge of the County and Probate Court of the district of Fairfield.

Mr. Samuel Sherwood was commissioned captain, Mr. Benjamin Rumsey lieutenant, and Mr. Thomas Nash ensign of the train-band of Green's Farms.\*

Danbury was made a Probate Court district for the towns of Danbury, Newtown and New Fairfield, and allowed one judge and one clerk, from which court all appeals were to be made to the Superior Court at Fairfield.

Major Joseph Worster was commissioned captain, Mr. Hezekiah Treadwell lieutenant and Mr. William Hill cornet of the troop of horse of the Fourth Regiment.

War having been declared March 20th by France against England and by England the same month against France, the Assembly ordered the colonels of each regiment to hold themselves in readiness to protect the forts, towns and places in the colony. By advice from the Committee of War, two hundred men with officers were ordered to be raised and to be sent to the assistance of the colony of New York.

In October an act was passed that all vessels clearing from any port in the colony or from any place between Philadelphia and Portsmouth in New Hampshire should pay towards supplying powder for the defence of the New London harbor. Each vessel between ten and fifty tons was ordered to pay four shillings, between fifty and one hundred tons eight shillings, and all vessels clearing from more remote parts an increased sum. This was called powder money.†

Badges of recognition for friendly Indians were ordered to be supplied.

Soldiers guilty of mutiny against their officers, disobeying their commands, quarreling, swearing, cursing, lying, stealing or drunkenness were

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 9, pp. 7, 8.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. IX, p. 74.

"to be punished by running the gauntlet, or riding the wooden horse or being put under a guard."\*

Fairfield having neglected to send in list her of the polls and taxable estates, it was resolved, as by law required, that the town of Fairfield "shall be doomed, & the said town is thereby doomed, & shall set in the public list the sum of forty thousand pounds." The colony treasurer was ordered to levy and collect the several rates therein, allowing the town to draw forty shillings on each thousand pounds for school money.†

1745. Before it was known in New England that war had been declared between France and England, the French had fitted out an expedition from Louisburg and surprised Canso. They then proceeded to take Annapolis, but that post having been reinforced from Massachusetts, the attack proved a failure. They continued, however, to harass the coast settlements, and their men-of-war and privateers to capture many of our vessels, so that the fishing business was suspended for the summer. This caused the colonies of New England to resolve to assault and take Louisburg, and to take it, if possible, before supplies could reach there from France.

On the 26th of February another session of the Assembly was holden at Hartford by the advice of the Council of War, to join Massachusetts in an expedition against Cape Breton and its neighborhood. It was agreed to raise five hundred volunteers. The sloop "Defence," with several hired transports, was ordered to be equipped and provisioned as speedily as possible. Major Andrew Burr was commissioned colonel of the forces, Captain Simon Lathrop lieutenant-colonel and Captain Isaac Newton major. The soldiers were divided into eight companies. Mr. Daniel Bradley of Fairfield was commissioned first lieutenant of a company in the regiment of foot.

Jonathan Trumbull and the Rev. Elisha Williams were appointed to visit Massachusetts and confer with the magistrates of that colony as to the best way to expedite the movements of the expedition, and to report to the Assembly "with all possible speed."

Another session of the Assembly took place March 8th, when Rev. Elisha Williams was commissioned chaplain, the Hon. William Pepperell lieutenant-general and the Hon. Roger Wolcott major-general of all the forces. Surgeons, physicians and commissaries were also appointed.

The third day of April was, by proclamation of Governor Jonathan

\* Col. Rec. Comm. Vol. IX, p. 20.

† Col. Rec. Comm. Vol. IX, p. 20.

Laws, appointed a fast, and also the last Wednesday in April, a day of fasting and prayer to implore the blessing of Almighty God on the expedition.\*

Twenty thousand pounds in bills of credit were ordered to be issued towards defraying the expenses of the expedition, to be stamped on the new plates, with the addition of the date of the Assembly, March 14, 1745. A tax of twenty-one thousand pounds was levied on all polls and taxable estates to refund this order, to be paid into the colony treasury in four equal payments between May, 1752, and May, 1755, in bills of new tenor with the advance of twelve pence on the pound, or in silver at the rate of eight shillings per ounce Troy weight or gold "equivalent."†

The Assembly met again at Hartford, May 9th. Judge Ebenezer Silliman was present as one of the Assistants, and Captain Samuel Burr and Mr. Thaddeus Burr as representatives from Fairfield. Mr. Andrew Burr was appointed Judge of the Fairfield County Court, and Judge Ebenezer Silliman of the District Probate Court of Fairfield.

John Dimon was commissioned captain, James Beers lieutenant and Gideon Allen ensign of the second train-band of Fairfield.‡

Judge Ebenezer Silliman was appointed one of the Judges of the Superior Court in the colony.

Nathaniel Silliman was commissioned captain, Abraham Morehouse lieutenant and Samuel Wakeman ensign of the first train-band of Fairfield.§

A company of volunteers was ordered to be raised to protect the western frontier towns.

Nathan Disborow of Fairfield was granted liberty "to keep a ferry & build a toll bridge across the salt water lying between the towns of Fairfield & Norwalk, at a place called the Narrows at the Great Rock."

Two more companies of volunteers were ordered to be raised to join in the expedition against Cape Breton. Mr. Jabez Barlow of Fairfield was commissioned lieutenant of one of the companies.¶ Judge Ebenezer Silliman was appointed one of two to provide for and equip them, and when prepared they were to reinforce the troops of Colonel Andrew Burr's regiment.¶¶

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 9, p. 99.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 9, p. 108.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 9, p. 128.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 9, pp. 99, 100.

¶ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 9, p. 108.

¶¶ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 9, p. 144.

Edmund Lewis, as surveyor of Fairfield County, was appointed to fix the boundary lines of New Fairfield.\*

On the 2d of July the Assembly met at New Haven, when it was voted that three hundred more able-bodied men and commissioned officers should be raised and sent on the expedition against Cape Breton to join Colonel Andrew Burr's regiment. Judge Ebenezer Silliman was appointed one of four commissaries to provision the three companies for the expedition for two months from the date of their embarkation; and also to make further provision for those already away.†

Twenty thousand pounds more was ordered to be issued in new tenor bills of credit on the colony. A tax of twenty thousand pounds new tenor was levied on all polls and taxable estates, to be paid into the treasury May, 1756, and in May, 1759, in silver money at the rate of eight shillings per ounce Troy weight, sterling alloy, or in gold equivalent.

Meanwhile the troops were placed under Colonel Pepperell as commander-in-chief, and Deputy Governor Roger Wolcott second in command. Many of the soldiers who went on this expedition were freeholders and sons of wealthy families who had volunteered from patriotic motives. They had also been encouraged by their principal officers, who were men of distinction and wealth. Everything seemed to favor the undertaking. The winter had been unusually mild. It was found difficult, however, to obtain provisions for the troops, and, in consequence, "committees of war were authorized to enter houses, cellars & all places where food could be found & seize them for the use of the army."‡ Fortunately, vessels arrived with many needed articles. Patriotism ran so high that the people submitted to any measure for the furtherance of the expedition; in fact, the leading spirits of the colony showed themselves willing to make any sacrifice, risk or expense to help towards accomplishing the task they had undertaken.

Connecticut and Rhode Island furnished twelve vessels of war, several of which set sail about the middle of March, to cruise off the harbor of Louisburg. New England, not possessing sufficient artillery, ten eighteen-pound cannon were borrowed from Governor Shirley of New York. In three months the army which had been enlisted was fully equipped for service. The troops had been ordered to sail from New

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. IX, p. 135.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. IX, p. 148.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 9, p. 150.



London. As the Massachusetts troops embarked March 23d a dispatch boat, which had been sent out to consult with Commodore Warren, then in the West Indies, arrived with a reply from him: "that as the expectation was wholly a colonial affair, & without orders from England, his squadron having been weakened by the loss of Weymouth, he must be excused from taking part in the enterprise." His reply was suppressed, "& the expedition sailed the next morning, as if nothing had happened." They arrived at Canso April 4th. The New Hampshire troops arrived April 1st, and Governor Wolcott arrived on the 25th. In all the land army numbered four thousand troops, "in health & high spirits."

Soon after Commodore Warren received orders from England to sail with as many ships as he could spare to Massachusetts, to join his Majesty's service in America. He set sail immediately for Boston, dispatching an express boat to his other vessels on the seas to join him. The other ships soon after reached him at Canso. Every New England soldier's heart filled with joy and courage at the sight of so formidable a fleet. Without delay the entire fleet set sail for Louisburg. Meanwhile the vessels which had previously been sent to cruise off the harbor had taken several ships laden with West India provisions. They had also attacked the "*Renomme*," a French ship of thirty-six guns. After a running fire with the New England vessels, and a vain attempt to enter the harbor of Louisburg, she set sail for France to carry the intelligence of what was taking place in America. On her way she fell in with the Connecticut and Rhode Island vessels, with which she exchanged some shots, damaging the Rhode Island sloop-of-war, and then continued on her way to France.

On the 30th of April the fleet, consisting of three thousand two hundred men from Massachusetts, five hundred from Connecticut and three hundred from Rhode Island, arrived in Chapeaurouge Bay. The French had had no intimation of this design, having taken the vessels cruising off the harbor as privateers engaged in fishing and trading.

The French General Bouladrie, with one hundred and fifty men, was dispatched to oppose the landing of the New England forces; but General Wolcott, while making a feint at one point, was landing his forces at another. Bouladrie and his force were soon overpowered, many of his men killed and himself and others taken prisoners, the remainder escaping as rapidly as possible before the continued landing of the New England forces. An attack was made the next morning behind the hills

of the northeast harbor by four hundred men, who burned both houses and stores until within a mile of the grand battery. The smoke prevented the French from seeing the attacking force, and believing the whole army was upon them, they deserted the grand battery, which the attacking forces took possession of without the loss of one man.

Although many difficulties presented themselves in making an attack upon the town and its fortifications, which were almost impregnable, nothing daunted, the colonial forces proceeded to drag their cannon, mortars and ammunition through a morass, into which the horses and oxen would sink so as to be useless. The soldiers then dragged them themselves through this morass, and erected five fascine batteries, one of which mounted five forty-two pounders, which did great execution.

Meanwhile the fleet had chased and captured the French ship "Vigilant," commanded by the Marquis de la Maison Forte with five hundred men on board, and with a large supply of stores for the garrison. This capture was of great importance, as it not only gave our forces valuable supplies, but prevented all expectations of further supplies to the French, thus accelerating the capitulation.

The gigantic labors of the siege decreased the colonial forces, but fresh naval forces continued to arrive, until "eleven men of war, one sixty-four, four sixty, one fifty, & five forty guns," stood off the harbor. It was decided that the ships should now enter the harbor and coöperate with the land forces in attacking the town.

Meanwhile, such damage had been done to the island battery, to the east and west gates of the town, the circular battery of sixteen guns, and the principal battery against the ships, as well as the west flank of the king's bastion, that upon seeing the preparations for a general attack the French, feeling wholly unable to cope with the situation, on the fifteenth of June desired a cessation of hostilities, in order to enter upon articles of capitulation. On June seventeenth, "after a siege of forty-nine days, Louisburg with its strong fortifications & its garrison of six hundred regulars & thirteen hundred militia, with the Island of Cape Breton was delivered over to the King of England," against whom the captives were not to bear arms for twelve months.

This capitulation was most fortunate for the colonies, as the besieging forces needed more men, and were, even with the captured stores of the "Vigilant," falling short of provisions and military stores.

Meanwhile the seven or eight hundred recruits, with provisions and ammunition raised for their relief, did not arrive before the surrender.

The day after the surrender a severe storm set in, and continued for ten days. This saved our forces from great suffering, as their tents were poor and not equal to sheltering them, many men during the siege having been forced to lie out upon the ground. Their comfortable quarters in Louisburg led many to regard all this as most providential.

This was regarded as a remarkable victory, and one of great importance to the country. The colonial troops exhibited a spirit of valor and endurance which won for them the highest praise. During the siege only one hundred men were lost by sickness and in storming the place.

The news of this victory caused great rejoicing throughout all the colonies, and although New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania had taken no part in it, "New York contributed three, New Jersey two, & Pennsylvania four thousand pounds in money & provisions for the support of the troops."

The loss of Louisburg was regarded by the French as a great blow, as it was called the American Gibraltar.

The prizes taken by our ships during this expedition were valued at near a million pounds. Two East India ships captured and one from the South Sea were valued at six hundred thousand pounds sterling. The American fisheries were preserved and the trade of the colonies secured.

Meanwhile DuVivour returned to France to solicit ships and men for the reduction of Nova Scotia. He was sent back with seven ships of war for the undertaking; but upon receiving news of the reduction of Louisburg he returned to France.

An expedition of nine hundred French and Indians from Canada, to coöperate with this fleet, was prepared by Monsieur Marín, and appeared before Annapolis, but as no ships arrived he returned to France.

More than five thousand men from New England were engaged in this undertaking; and "from the time of the surrender of Louisburg until the twenty-fourth of May, nearly eleven months, it was kept wholly by the New England troops"; but their numbers were greatly diminished by sickness. Connecticut sent more than a thousand men.\*

A special meeting of the Assembly was held at New Haven, August 16th, when it was resolved that three hundred and fifty of Major-General

\* Trumbull's Hist. Conn., Vol. II, pp. 270-283.

Wolcott's regiment, then under the command of Colonel Andrew Burr, should be maintained at Louisburg for its protection until June. Judge Ebenezer Silliman with the other commissaries was ordered to provide provisions and necessary guns and ammunition for the men, and all others in the colony who should be sent to protect the fort and town, " & to impress anything needed under just & reasonable terms."

A letter was addressed to the King by this Assembly praying him to assist Connecticut in the expenses of sending and maintaining the forces of this expedition, " for their incredible labors & fatigues, whose loyalty & resolution is inferior to none," having had no share of the plunder taken; whereas the officers and soldiers at sea, both before and since the surrender, have shared in great and valuable prizes taken to the amount of over a million sterling.\*

On the 10th of October the Assembly met again, when John Sandford was commissioned lieutenant of the train-band of Reading; and John Sherman lieutenant and Hezekiah Odel ensign of the train-band of Stratfield.

1746. Flushed with the success of this victory, largely gained by the New England colonies, England thought only of the conquest of Canada and conquering everything belonging to France in America. While, on the other hand, France, burning with rage and humiliation, resolved to recapture Louisburg and to extend her conquests the whole length of the New England coast, and in fact from Nova Scotia to Georgia.

England ordered eight battalions of regular troops, which, in conjunction with the New England forces, should proceed to Louisburg, and with a squadron under Admiral Warren sail up the St. Lawrence to Quebec. Between Virginia and New York a force was ordered to be raised, the headquarters of which should be at Albany, to be placed under the command of General St. Clair, to march across the country to Montreal. It was left to the colonies to raise about five thousand men.

The General Assembly met at Hartford, May 8th, and continued by several adjournments until the 31st of the month. Judge Ebenezer Silliman was present as an Assistant, and Colonel Andrew Burr and Captain Samuel Burr as deputies. Judge Andrew Burr was appointed judge of the Fairfield County Court and Judge Ebenezer Silliman of the District Probate Court.

A serious dispute having arisen in regard to settling a minister over

\* Trumbull's Hist. Conn., Vol. IX, pp. 155-162.



the North Parish of Stratford, Judge Ebenezer Silliman, Andrew Burr and Thaddeus Burr, Esq., were appointed to settle their difficulties.\*

It was resolved by the Assembly that all such soldiers and sailors who had or might return from the expedition against Cape Breton should be provided for, either in some hospital or in their own homes, at the expense of the colony.

Colonel John Whiting was placed in command of the Connecticut forces. It was ordered that six hundred able-bodied men or more should be raised to go on the expedition against Canada, and be equipped as speedily as possible. Colonel Andrew Burr was made one of six commissaries with full power to impress all necessary supplies needed; and each volunteer was to be paid ten pounds bounty money in old tenor bills.

The Governor was requested by the Assembly to issue proclamations "for keeping days of fasting & prayer to Almighty God for His protection, blessing & assistance in the expedition about to be undertaken against Canada."

Mr. James Church was commissioned captain of the Fourth Regiment.

Colonel Andrew Burr's name was added to the Council of War.

Another issue of bills of credit to the amount of £20,000 was ordered to be printed and stamped, and a tax on the polls and taxable estates of the colony of £21,000 was levied on the towns in the colony, to be paid into the treasury by May 1, 1754, to be paid in bills of credit or in silver money.

At the meeting of the Assembly, June 19th, it was resolved to raise and equip one thousand men to go against Canada, as well as to assist in sending men and Indians to protect the frontier towns.

At the October term of the Assembly £35,000 in bills of credit were ordered to be struck off, for the expenses of the colony, to redeem which a tax was laid on all the towns of £36,000. The estates of Fairfield were valued this year at £44,100 14s.

As the winter approached it was not deemed expedient to send the forces raised until they should be required, but they were to be furloughed until ordered to muster in again.

1747. Again the Assembly met, January 28th, at New Haven. Having received letters from the Governors of Massachusetts and New York in regard to an expedition against Crown Point, it was decided, "that as

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 9, p. 203.

such an expedition would be attended with great difficulties, hardships & fatigue, such as would dishearten the troops, & render them unfit for service: & as they had knowledge that the western & southern troops were suffering from small pox, which would prove contagious to our troops, it was therefore thought best to wait until milder weather, & for a more general agreement for a concerted plan of action; lest they might weaken the forces raised, & so displease his Majesty, as well as to be instrumental in preventing the reduction of Canada.

A letter was drafted and addressed to King George the Second, congratulating his Majesty on the success of his arms against the Popish pretender, the Duke of Cumberland, over the rebels of Scotland, and to assure him of the devotion to his cause and kingdom.\*

Meanwhile an expedition from Massachusetts, which had joined with the troops of Rhode Island, had met with disaster and defeat.†

A fleet which had been sent out under the command of the Duke D'Anville of three thousand one hundred and thirty land forces, met only with delay, disaster and the loss of several of their best ships. This, with want of coöperation with his officers and fleet, caused the enterprise to end in chagrin and failure.

A part of this fleet under Conflans, one of D'Anville's chief officers, was seen off the New England coast. Alarmed, and fearing the whole fleet was about to descend upon the New England towns, the colonists quickly rallied to the situation. Six thousand troops were sent to reinforce Boston and six thousand more were ordered to be raised, and, if needed, to be sent with all due dispatch to their assistance. The sea-coast towns were protected by the home militia. Meanwhile the English fleet, under Admiral Listock, was in vain looked for, who was expected to assist the fleet at Louisburg to defeat the French, but Listock's fleet never arrived.

In this undertaking the French lost two of its admirals, the Duke D'Anville and D'Estourelle, by violent death. Long and wearisome voyages and disease and death so thinned their troops as to unfit them for service; and although the Governor of Canada had planned with their

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. IX, pp. 264, 265.

† Three hundred men from Rhode Island were shipwrecked near Martha's Vineyard. The New Hampshire troops returned. The Massachusetts troops reached Minos and were there surprised by the French and their Indian allies. About one hundred and sixty men were killed and taken prisoners. Their captain was killed, which so dispirited the others that they surrendered and returned home.—Trumbull's Hist. Conn., Vol. 2, p. 291.

assistance to take Annapolis and Nova Scotia, the mortality among the soldiers and sailors had been so great as to lead the remaining numbers and their officers to return to France. On the 13th of October they sailed for France, meeting only with storms and disaster on their homeward course. "Thus after burying two admirals and nearly half their men at Chebucto they returned without effecting the least enterprise against the colonists. Such a succession of disasters as pursued the French, till they returned, is rarely to be found in the history of human events."

Disappointed in every expectation from England, and the failure of an expedition against Crown Point, which had been sent out by the colonies, followed with an epidemic sickness at Albany, as well as alarm of the reported arrival of the French fleet, frustrated the design.\*

A general murmur of neglect on the part of England arose among the colonists. Connecticut alone had expended eight thousand pounds in bills of credit in furthering this undertaking, which took them many years to redeem. A feeling of alienation to the mother country followed, and a stronger desire for self-reliance and independence influenced the minds of many.

Fairfield in all these undertakings gave freely of her strength, both in men and money. Colonel John Burr, no longer able to enter the field, carried on vigorous assistance in the town by raising and equipping troops. The meeting-house green was the scene of frequent musters for collecting volunteers. Judge Ebenezer Silliman was engaged in his constant labors in attending the General Assembly, and in his commissary duties at home. Samuel Sturges was busy in collecting the taxes to defray the expenses of the equipment and the bounty money. Colonel Andrew Burr went with the expedition for the reduction of Louisburg and returned in safety. Black Rock harbor saw the departure of many vessels, laden with troops, horses and provisions, to join the fleet at New London. The mothers and daughters of Fairfield worked with patriotic fervor in preparing bread and warm clothing for their soldiers, and with tears of grief saw them depart, and welcomed those who returned with smiles of joy. Thus, in the school of hard labor and discipline, they were taught to be brave and strong for all the undertakings of life.

The Assembly met, May 14th, at Hartford. Judge Ebenezer Silliman and Colonel Andrew Burr were present as Assistants, and Captain

\* Trumbull's Hist. Conn., Vol. II, p. 284-288. Hollister's Hist. Conn., Vol. I, p. 410-414.

Samuel Burr and Thaddeus Burr, Esq., as deputies from Fairfield. Ebenezer Silliman was chosen to be one of the Judges of the Superior Court of the colony, and also of the Probate Court of Fairfield. Colonel Andrew Burr was chosen Judge of the Fairfield County Courts.

Mr. Daniel Bradley was commissioned captain, Mr. John Bradley lieutenant, and Mr. David Banks ensign of the fifth (transland) of the town of Fairfield.\*

Mr. John Sherwood was commissioned captain, Mr. Hezekiah Odell lieutenant, and Mr. Samuel Odell ensign of the transland of the patron of Stratfield.†

For a more stable currency it was enacted:

"That for the future the bills of public credit of the colony, or silver or gold equivalent to them only, should be received for the payment of jury fees, imposts, duties, excise & other payments to be made for the use of the colony, except in payment or discharge of bonds or mortgages heretofore given by the Governor & Company of the colony until October; when all such contracts made from that date should become null & void."

This act was passed to prevent the circulation of bills of credit from other colonies," which had seriously depreciated the value of the colony bills."

For the encouragement of trade in the colony, taxes were exacted from January, 1748, on all goods, wares and merchandise from the other colonies in New England, or from New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, at the rate of five and seven and a half per cent. In case of non-payment of this duty all goods were to be seized and forfeited, unless the owner could give good evidence of his readiness to comply with the requirements of the act. Several things, however, of value to the colony were made exempt from this duty.

If any private person in the colony should, at his own risk, import goods from Great Britain or Ireland, to be disposed of in the colony, he was allowed a premium of five pounds out of the public treasury in bills of credit, according to the value of the invoice presented from the place of exportation.

Owing to excessive exportation of timber out of the colony to neighboring colonies, to the great damage of ship building and trade with the West Indies, a heavy tax was laid on all kinds of timber, and severe penalties and confiscation were laid upon all infringements of this law.‡

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 9, p. 273.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 9, p. 273.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., 18, 202-208.



Acts were also passed regulating the fees of the Assistants, deputies and public officers of the colony, as well as of the wages of officers, seamen and soldiers of the army.

Six hundred pounds was ordered to be paid the Indians of the Six Nations, who should assist in carrying on the present war, “ & to further draw upon the colony treasury £2,000 for their future services as allies of the colony.”

The Assembly met again October 8th, when several members “ who had not taken the oaths provided by acts of Parliament instead of the oaths of allegiance & supremacy, now took the said oath, & likewise the oath of abjuration, & made declaration against popery.”\*

The estates of Fairfield were rated at £45,973 9s.

Colonel Andrew Burr was appointed to take charge of and keep in order the arms, accoutrements and ammunition of the officers and soldiers raised for the expedition against Canada, in the companies of Captain Josiah Starr and Captain Joseph Worster.†

Governor Laws laid before the Assembly an agreement made the previous September with the colonies of Massachusetts, New York and Connecticut by their commissioners for the defence of the British colonies against foreign foes. This agreement was approved, and to be ratified by the Assembly only as soon as they should learn the views of and agreement of the other two colonies.

The French having completed their preparations for a fresh attack upon the British possessions in North America and the East Indies, De la Jonquiere, Governor of Quebec, was placed in command of the North American fleet, while M. de St. George commanded that of the East Indies. England sent out Admirals Anson and Warren to pursue them. They overtook the French squadron May 3d and entered into a spirited engagement with them, and although the French fought bravely, they were overpowered and obliged to surrender.

This was a most fortunate victory for the colonists. The French for a short time gave no further trouble in Nova Scotia. But their Indian allies gave much trouble to the colonists of the northern frontier towns and islands, specially at St. George and Saratoga, as they made frequent depredations on the settlements of the Connecticut River, Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

While all these warlike undertakings had been planned and were yet to

\* Col. Rec. Conn, IX, 282-292.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 9, p. 343.

be carried out, the ecclesiastical prosperity of the colony had also been of the gravest consideration. Owing to trouble existing between the *Old Lights* and the *New Lights*, and the unhappy excitement caused by itinerant preaching, the General Assembly were led to pass such severe laws as to offend many who regarded them as lacking in Christian charity towards those who differed from the teaching of the established church.

Throughout the excitement which prevailed in many of the parishes in Connecticut, Fairfield continued unmoved. The minister and officers of Christ Church rather strengthened themselves in the bonds of union. The old church no longer met the demands of its large congregation, and active measures were set on foot for erecting a new and beautiful edifice.

The prosperity of the churches throughout the town at this time was remarkable, for while peace reigned within her borders, many of her noblest sons had been called away to share the laurels of the expedition against the Spanish West Indies, Porto Bello, Carthagena, Cuba, the Floridas and Cape Breton. The Rev. Henry Caner reported to the Honorable Society in England that Fairfield suffered much from the effects of these wars. In all the active measures both of church and state Fairfield was one of the largest contributors of men and means to carry them out.

The prosperity of the Church of England, not only in Fairfield, but throughout the county, had been owing to the unwearied faithfulness of the Rev. Mr. Caner, and deep was the sorrow of many that the needed rest from years of continual labor now made it necessary that he should find another field where he might lead a less active life. He received a call to the rectorship of King's Chapel, Boston, which he accepted.

The Rev. Henry Caner, who had visited England about 1736, was, upon his return, assisted in his pastoral duties by his brother, Richard Caner, who was ordained in 1740. Richard Caner was a graduate of Yale College, and afterwards became a school teacher at Fairfield. Besides the duties of a teacher, he frequently walked to Norwalk on Saturdays, and officiated on the Lord's day as a lay reader, using a form of prayer extracted from the Church Liturgy and some good, practical sermon or other plain printed discourse of the Divines of the Church of England. The parish of Norwalk under his ministry had erected a small church between 1737 and 1742. He officiated in his duties until 1744, when he was removed from Norwalk to Staten Island, as a reward for

his faithful services in the care of the churches of Northfield, now Weston and Wilton, Ridgefield and Norwalk, within the extensive cure of his brother, the Rev. Henry Caner, "the Society's worthy missionary at Fairfield, Connecticut."

The Rev. Joseph Lamson, a native of Stratford, was chosen as the successor of the Rev. Mr. Caner. In a letter to the Honorable Society, Mr. Lamson asked for the same salary that was allowed Mr. Caner, "the expense of living being much greater than in previous years."

Upon the eve of leaving for Boston the Rev. Henry Caner wrote, in a letter to England:

FEB. 12, 1747.

"I have long labored under infirmities of body which make it difficult for me to perform the services required in such an extensive cure as that of Fairfield. The frequent colds I have taken & disorders consequent thereon have made travelling to me pretty much impracticable. I hope the Honorable Society will indulge the people of Fairfield in their desire to have Mr. Lamson settled among them. The people are generous according to their circumstances—I expect to be called upon from Boston Lady day next,\* as I am to continue my labors at Fairfield until May or June. The members of Trinity Church have purchased a large & convenient house, with suitable accommodations, for a parsonage—house worth about £150 sterling; & by the will of a charitable person, Miss Jerushia Sturges, lately deceased, they received an addition of £50 of this currency."†

The Rev. Nathaniel Hunn of Reading opened the General Court this year with the usual annual election sermon. Ebenezer Silliman, Esq., and Mr. Thaddeus Burr were appointed to return the thanks of the Assembly for his sermon, desiring a copy thereof, that it might be printed.

On the 2d of December, 1747, the First Congregational Church at Stratfield met with a sad loss in the death of their minister, the Rev. Samuel Cooke. In July, 1715, he received a call to the pastorate of the First Congregational Church at Stratfield, which he accepted, and in

\* March 25th, the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary.

† The Rev. Mr. Henry Caner continued to be the rector of King's Chapel, Boston, until 1776. And although not then a missionary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, "he continued to act as its confidential friend and correspondent, especially in regard to the recommendation of candidates for holy orders. In 1776 he received the honorary degree of D.D. from the University of Oxford. In March, 1776, he went from Boston to Halifax, and soon afterwards sailed for England, where he was received by the Honorable Society with the respect which he so well deserved. The Society offered him the choice of any of the missions then vacant; and he was appointed to Bristol in Rhode Island. And thus, through the changes and chances of life, he reassumed in his old age a similar employment to that which he undertook in his youth."—Hawkins' Hist. Notices, p. 247. He died in England, at an advanced age, in 1792.—President Stiles' Diary, 1793. Hist. Protestant Episcopal Church in America, Bishops Hawkes and Perry, p. 23. Rev. Nathaniel Cornwall's Hist. Discourse at Southport, Conn., 1851.

which office he continued for thirty-two years. The house in which he resided at Stratfield stood opposite that of his predecessor, the Rev. Charles Chauncey, on the corner of what has since been called Cooke Lane, and but a short distance from his church.

Mr. Cooke is represented "to have been a man of great dignity of character, highly respected by his people, although it has been said that they stood somewhat in fear of him. He was particularly scrupulous in matters of dress and personal appearance. He wore a ministerial dress, which consisted of a heavy curled wig, black coat and small clothes, shoes with silver buckles, and over all a black gown."\*

1748. The General Assembly met at Hartford, May 12th, Judge Ebenezer Silliman and Colonel Andrew Burr were present as Assistants, and Mr. Thaddeus and Captain John Burr as deputies from Fairfield.

Colonel Andrew Burr was appointed Judge of the Fairfield County Court, and Judge Ebenezer Silliman Judge of the District Probate Court.

Mr. Abraham Morehouse was commissioned captain, Mr. Samuel Wakeman lieutenant, and Mr. David Allen ensign of the first train-band of Fairfield.

At the October session of the Assembly held at New Haven, Mr. Samuel Sturges was commissioned captain, Mr. James Smedley lieutenant, and Mr. Nathaniel Burr, Jr., ensign of the second train-band of Fairfield.

The Rev. Lyman Hall succeeded the Rev. Mr. Cooke at Stratfield. Mr. Hall was born in Wallingford on the 24th of April, 1724. He graduated at Yale College in 1747, and studied theology with an uncle in Cheshire, Conn. He was ordained at Stratfield on the 27th of September, 1749. On account of some trouble arising between Mr. Hall and his congregation, he left the church at Stratfield on the 18th of July, 1751, took up the study of medicine and became a physician.

Dr. Hall removed to South Carolina in 1752, and returned to the State produced to settle at Sunbury, in the district of Medway, Georgia. Upon the breaking out of the Revolution he was living at St. John's, which, being a frontier settlement, rendered his proximity to the Creek Indians and the royal province of Florida alike dangerous to his person and property.

The parish of St. John's enlisted with great earnestness and patriotism in the revolutionary spirit against the tyranny of Great Britain. This was not the case, however, with the majority of the people in Georgia; and in consequence a wide separation in political sentiments took place between the Georgians and the inhabitants of St. John's. In 1774 Dr. Hall represented the parish of St. John's at Savannah, at which time the friends of liberty held a general meeting; and again, in 1775, when it was agreed to petition the

\* Appendix No. 5.



King for a redress of grievances, and for relief from the arbitrary acts of the British ministry.

On the 15th of July, 1775, the convention of Georgia acceded to the general confederacy and appointed five delegates to Congress, three of whom attended an adjourned meeting of that body September 13th, one of whom was Dr. Hall. He was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence July 4th, 1776; and was annually reelected to Congress until 1780. When Georgia fell temporarily into the power of the British, his property was confiscated, and he removed with his family to the north. In 1782 he returned to Georgia, and the following year was elected Governor of the State. He remained in this office until he retired from the cares of public life. He died at his residence in Burk's County when only about sixty years of age.

"Dr. Hall in his person was tall & well proportioned. In his manners he was easy, & in his deportment dignified & courteous. He was by nature characterized by a warm & enthusiastic disposition, which, however, was under the guidance of a sound discretion. His mind was active & discriminating. Ardent in his own feelings, he possessed the power of exciting others to action; & though in Congress he acted not so conspicuous a part as many others, yet his example & his exertions, especially in connection with those of the inhabitants of the circumscribed parish of St. John's, powerfully contributed to the final accession of the whole colony of Georgia to the confederacy; thus presenting, in array against the mother country, the whole number of her American colonies."\*

Still another important step was taken this year towards erecting a new meeting-house for the Prime Ancient Society at Fairfield, as the following vote will show:

"Upon the memorial of the first society in Fairfield, praying this Assembly to fix & establish a place in said society to build a new meeting-house upon as per their memorial on file: Resolved by this Assembly that the place where the old meeting-house now stands in said society be & is hereby fixed & established to be the place to build a new meeting-house upon in said society for divine worship."

This vote plainly shows that Christ Church, where our forefathers worshiped, is precisely the spot upon which that church still stands.

A school-house was at this time set on foot for the children of Cross Highway, which lies between Green's Farms and Greenfield Hill.

The churchmen of Stratfield had increased in such numbers that they also erected a church, giving it the name of St. John's Church. This edifice stood on the corner of Church Lane and North Avenue, on the King's Highway, a short distance from the new Congregational church, which stood on the corner of Park and North Avenues.

Mr. Lamson, whose cure extended from Stratford to Rye, and included the parishes of Ridgefield and Norwalk and the other Church of England parishes, also officiated at St. John's. In a letter to the Secretary of the Honorable Society in England, he thus wrote:

\* Lives of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence, by Charles A. Goodrich.

"I have formerly mentioned a church building at Stratfield, & which within the bounds of Fairfield, in which they are very eager to have me officiate every third Sunday, because we have a large congregation when I preach there. The people from the town & westward are very much against it, because Mr. Caner used to keep steadily to the church in town; but then there was neither church nor congregation at Stratfield."

Mr. Lamson was unable, however, to officiate more than one Sunday every month for some years.

Colonel John Burr became one of the most zealous and generous supporters of St. John's.

The good people of Reading also felt the necessity of building a new meeting-house. Lieutenant Joseph Sandford was appointed to present a memorial to the General Assembly, "praying for a committee to ascertain & fix a place for the new meeting-house." The Assembly of May, 1748, appointed Captain Thomas Tousey of Newtown, Mr. Thomas Benedict and Captain Josiah Starr of Danbury as a committee "to repair to said society & notify & hear the parties, view their circumstances & affix the place whereon said meeting-house should be built." To act with these gentlemen, the society appointed as a parish committee John Read, Stephen Burr, Josiah Sandford and Ephraim Jackson.\*

The Rev. Mr. Beach reported to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel that he had baptized about sixty or seventy children at Reading in one year, and that he had "about four hundred hearers, sober, righteous & godly." He also mentioned "having baptized negro slaves, some of whom were communicants, who appeared to be sincere christians." "Our Church," he wrote, "like the house of David waxes stronger & stronger."

The Rev. Mr. Hunn, who had served the Congregationalists of Reading as a faithful and honored pastor, did not live to see the new church erected. He was taken ill and died while traveling in the fall of 1749. His remains were buried in Boston. He added to his church ninety-two members during his pastorate, performed thirty-five marriages and one hundred and ninety-two baptisms.†

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 9, p. 381.

† Ruth Hunn, the widow of the Rev. Nathaniel Hunn, died in 1760 and was buried in the brother, Col. John Read of Read Manor, in the Reading cemetery, which lies west of the present parsonage. Ruth Hunn was the daughter of the Hon. John Read who settled at Lonsdown, afterwards Reading in 1714, and who removed to Boston in 1725. She was the daughter of John Read, son of the above John Read of Boston, who succeeded his father in the estate of the Read Manor at Reading.

The name of Nathaniel Hunn occurs in Savage's Genealogical Dictionary; but he traces no connection between Nathaniel Hunn of Boston and Nathaniel Hunn of Reading.

The north society of New Fairfield petitioned the General Assembly through their agent, Ebenezer Hubbell, Esq., praying that a tax might be levied on all the lands laid out in this society for the support and settlement of an orthodox minister among them. The Assembly granted a tax of eight pence per acre in old tenure bills of credit upon the lands laid out in the north society of New Fairfield, "exclusive of the addition made to each division to proportion the quality, & that for the term of four years, to be paid in the month of November annually & improved for the settlement & support of an orthodox minister in said society, according to the establishment of this Colony." Mr. William Barnes of New Fairfield was appointed to collect this tax and to deliver it annually to the committee of the society.

The Assembly also granted the sum of four thousand pounds in bills of credit, old tenor, for finishing the new building for Yale College.

An act was passed at the sitting of the October session of the General Assembly which was as follows:

*"Resolved by this Assembly, That an act passed in the seventh year of Queen Anne, entitled, An Act in approbation of the agreement of the reverend elders & messengers of all the churches in this government, made & concluded at Saybrook 1708, also an act passed in the thirteenth year of the reign of King George the first, entitled, An Act for providing how taxes levyd on professors of the church of England for the support of the gospel shall be disposed of, & for exempting said professors from paying any taxes for building the meeting-houses for the present established churches of the government; also an act passed in the second year of King George the second, entitled, An act in addition to & for the alteration of an act made in the seventh year of the reign of Queen Anne, entitled an act for the ease of such as soberly dissent from the way & worship & ministry established by the laws of this government, & also an act passed in the third year of the reign of King George the second, entitled, An Act concerning the people called Baptists, be all, with their several titles & dates, printed with the new revised laws of the Colony."\**

Owing to the injustice of previous acts passed by the Assembly, the Wardens of the Church of England in Fairfield, and all the other English churches in the colony, met at New London and prepared a memorial, praying for relief from the burdensome taxes for the support of the established churches of the colony; that they might have full parish privileges granted them, and power within themselves to lay their own taxes within their several parishes for the support of their clergymen, and the maintenance of catechists or candidates for Holy Orders according to the practice allowed and approved of by the Society for the Propagation

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 9, p. 497.

of the Gospel, to choose their own collectors who should collect their taxes in the same manner as other societies in the colony. This petition, however, met with so much opposition from the Rev. Mathew Graves of New London, "who appears to have been a turbulent, tyrannical, self-seeking lover of power in the English Church, that it was never brought before the Legislature."

1749. Colonel Andrew Burr and Judge Ebenezer Silliman were present as Assistants at the meeting of the General Assembly at Hartford on the 11th of May, and Captain John Read and Mr. David Rowland—deputies from Fairfield.

Ebenezer Silliman was again chosen one of the Judges of the Superior Court of the colony. Colonel Andrew Burr was made Judge of the Probate Court of Fairfield.

His Grace the Duke of Bedford, having notified the Governor and Company of Connecticut that the treaty of peace agreed upon at Aix la Chapelle between England, France and Spain had been ratified, Governor Laws ordered a proclamation of this treaty to be proclaimed by the sheriff of the County of Hartford, at the usual place of military parade before the State House in Hartford, May 16th.

So great had been the expenses of the colony in sustaining the wars against Spain and France that the currency had sadly depreciated, and it was found difficult to meet the return payment of the bills of credit which had been issued from time to time. But hoping that some allowance would be sent from England, the Assembly ordered: "That all such allowances of sterling money that are made by the Parliament of Great Britain towards reimbursing the expenses of the Colony in the late expedition against Cape Breton, & such as should be made for the expenses of this Colony, in the late intended expedition against Canada, are hereby fully appropriated & shall be improved for the calling in, exchanging, sinking and discharging of the new outstanding bills of credit made & issued by this colony."

The Governor was authorized "to draw bills of exchange on our agent at Great Britain for the standing money that is or shall be paid into his hands, for reimbursing the colony for the allowances made as soon as information should reach him that it had been paid in Great Britain;" and that he should appropriate it towards reimbursing the expenses of the colony; "to receive one half the value thereof in the bills of public credit of the colony, & the other half in coined sterling silver alloy."



A committee was appointed to receive and make sale of the bills of public credit thus exchanged from the treasurer, "count, burn & consume them to ashes," and report the sum or sums thus received to the Assembly. Upon receipt of the silver coin procured for the bills of exchange when fully lodged in the hands of the treasurer, he was directed to pay it out in exchange for the colony bills of credit, bought and redeemed for such exchange by the committee, at the same rate that the silver money was received; and such bills of credit thus redeemed should be counted by them, and that they should then "burn & consume them to ashes." But as this reimbursement would not be sufficient to fully discharge the whole outstanding colony bills of credit, the Assembly granted three taxes to be levied on all the polls and taxable estates of the colony, one in 1751, the second in 1752, and the third in 1753. Out of these three taxes the sum of nine thousand pounds new tenor bills in each respective year when received was to be consumed to ashes. A tax of three pence on the pound was levied on all the polls and taxable estates of the colony of 1749, 1750 and 1752 to redeem this order. These taxes were to be paid into the treasury "in new tenor-bills of the colony, or in old tenor-bills equivalent to three shillings and sixpence in the old tenor for one shilling of the new; or in Spanish milled dollars in pieces of eight, at thirteen shillings nine pence new tenor each, or in other silver coin or gold equivalent."\* Out of these several taxes Fairfield bore her proportion towards the expenses of Great Britain's war with Spain and France.

The taxable estates of Fairfield were valued at £47,018 14s. 10d., one thousand pounds less than those of New Haven, and almost eight thousand pounds more than those of Hartford.†

The Indian Sachem at Reading, at this time called Captain Chicken, applied to the Assembly for a deed of two hundred acres of land at a place called Scattacook, laid out to him by Captain John Read October 11, 1748, which he had exchanged for land in Reading, reserved to himself at the time he deeded his other lands to Captain Simon Couch. The Assembly granted that the several pieces of land thus exchanged be legally confirmed and deeded to Captain Chicken.‡

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. IX, p. 447.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. IX, p. 491.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. IX, p. 434.

## 1750—1760

-Tent soldiers.—Religious life.—English traders.—King's College, England.—English Laws introduced.—Hill at English Ward at Stratfield.—Peter Penfield's Mill.—Death of John L.—Schools.—Sabbath day.—England.—New Congregational Church.—Death of Bishop Berkeley.—Civil and military officers of 1751.—French projects in America.—Persecution of English traders.—Connecticut alliance with Six Nations.—Form of prayer for King George II.—Baptists at Stratfield.—Stratfield bounds enlarged.—Civil and military officers of 1752.—Grammar Schools.—School lands.—Law for Sabbath Day.—Civil and military officers of 1753.—Tax for Colony expenses.—Houses of Correction.—Epidemic.—Tobacco.—War preparations.—Flax water-machine.—New Style calendar.—Congregationalism at Yale College.—Religious controversies increase.—Civil and military officers of 1754.—English traders murdered by French.—Fort Du Quesne taken.—Colonel Washington.—Connecticut petitions England for assistance and protection.—Grand council of war at Albany.—Combination of colonies under one president.—Plan of Great Britain for taxing colonies.—Religious controversy.—Donations of Bishop Berkeley and Governor Yale to Yale College.—King's College.—President Johnson.—Liberal response to King's requirements.—Bills of Credit.—War tax.—Fairfield War Committee.—Troops for war.—Reimbursement from England.—Bounty money.—Chief officers.—Colony's full power to call out troops.—England's act against paper money.—Colony act for paper money.—Civil and military officers, 1755.—Fast day.—Call for troops from New York.—Expeditions planned against the French.—French army and navy.—Troops for Crown Point.—Bills of Credit.—Connecticut officers of Fourth Regiment.—Increase of Bills of Credit and taxes.—Ebenezer Silliman commissioner to New York.—Arrival of English fleet.—French prizes taken.—Preparations of Gens. Johnson and Lyman on Lake George.—Attack on Johnson's camp.—Defeat of the French.—Colonel Macton's victory at Nova Scotia.—General Braddock's defeat at Fort Du Quesne.—Bravery of Colonel Washington.—Governor Shirley's forces against Niagara disheartened.—Erected Fort Ontario.—Bravery of Connecticut forces rewarded by King.—Fairfield parsonage and school lands.—Secret council against the French.—Appeal to King for money.—Gratuities to Connecticut forces.—Act to preserve Indian friendship.—French prisoners sent to Fairfield.—Commissioners sent to New York to prosecute the war.—Connecticut preparations.—Crown Point.—Connecticut borrows money.—Taxes to repay it.—Call for arms and ammunition.—Fairfield Council of War.—Jonathan Trumbull sent to England.—Civil and military officers of 1756.—Law against bribery in elections.—Long lots.—Loans to private individuals.—England sends timely money.—Fast day.—War declared against France, May 18th.—Preparations to defeat the French at all points.—Inefficient British generals.—Loss of fort at Oswego.—General Webb's incompetency.—Abercrombie's humiliating delay.—Industry of colonial troops.—Earl of Loudon in Connecticut.—French and Indian atrocities.—Gold and silver from England.—Embargo on grain and provisions.—Fast day.—Fresh troops for Lake George.—Officers of Fourth Regiment.—Earl Loudon's vexatious orders.—Fairfield parishes.—Weston parish.—Stratfield Baptists.—New Bridge.—Jail bounds.—

Commissioners to meet at Boston on war, January, 1757.—Collections taken in churches.—Public lottery for colony expenses.—Civil and military officers of 1757.—Preparation of troops to march.—Norfield bounds.—Public, shipping, and tea taxes on merchandise and peddlers.—Lieut.-Col. John Read.—Connecticut's noble response for troops.—Change from Crown Point to Louisburg—Large forces sent from England.—Expedition relinquished.—French achievements.—Fort William Henry reduced.—Albany threatened.—Connecticut sends large reinforcements—Great distress on frontiers.—English officers disgraced.—Fourth Regiment troops at Fort Edward.—General Council of War at New York.—Officers promoted.—Fairfield war taxes.—English soldiers at Fairfield.—Rev. Seth Pomeroy minister at Greenfield.—Baptists at Stratfield.—King's orders for large army to invade Canada.—Fresh troops raised and Bills of Credit.—Heavy taxes.—Commissioners.—Embargo on ships.—Military and civil officers of 1758.—British activity.—Connecticut agents to England.—Fairfield agent to Albany.—Fast day.—British troops at Fairfield.—Lottery.—Supplies for troops at Fort Edward and Station No. 4.—Roads to Albany.—Bell Foundry.—Troops from England.—Louisburg and St. Johns taken.—Forts Du Quesne and Frontenac taken.—Abercrombie's defeat at Fort Ticonderoga.—Besieged and taken by General Bradstreet.—Connecticut raises more forces and money.—Fairfield officers.—David Rowland to assist in counting seven chests of English money.—Civil and military officers of 1759.—More troops raised.—Brigade major.—English troops quartered at Fairfield.—Ticonderoga, Crown Point, and Isle Aux Noix taken.—Surrender of Quebec.—Preparations to take Montreal.—Fairfield taxes.—Old Lights and New Lights.

1750. WITHIN the past decade the inhabitants of Fairfield had nobly borne their share of men and the burdensome expenses levied upon them during England's wars with Spain and France. The Meeting-house Green had witnessed many arrivals of volunteers for the war. From Black Rock harbor the soldiers had embarked for New London to join the troops from the other Connecticut and Rhode Island towns. Whatever sorrow had befallen them from death and the return of disabled soldiers they bravely endured, and welcomed with them the return of peace.

While religious dissensions had distracted and caused bitter controversies, and even persecution, within the colony, a spirit of wise quietude seems to have continued in Fairfield. The rigor, however, of the acts passed by the General Assembly to suppress the Calvinistic doctrines of the New Lights or Separatists from the constitutional laws of the established church of the colony continued to rankle in the hearts of many, and eventually awakened a spirit of controversy even at Fairfield. Liberty of conscience was the common theme of all classes and conditions of men, and self-government and freedom from the exactions and oppressions of England was uppermost in many minds; in fact, all the American colonies began to realize their own strength and power to cope with the evils which surrounded and oppressed them.

At the opening of the General Assembly at Hartford, May 20th, Judge Ebenezer Silliman and Colonel Andrew Burr were present as Assistants, and Captain John Read and Mr. David Rowland as deputies from Fairfield.

Colonel Andrew Burr and Mr. David Rowland were appointed to thank the Rev. Noah Hobart for his election sermon, delivered at the opening of the Assembly, and to desire a copy that it might be printed. Judge Ebenezer Silliman was appointed one of the Judges of the Superior Court of the colony. Colonel Andrew Burr was made Judge of the County Court and of the District Probate Court of Fairfield.

Mr. Joshua Hall was commissioned ensign of the train-band of Reading, and Mr. Daniel Sherwood lieutenant, Daniel Burrit cornet, and Ezra Hawley quartermaster of the Fourth Regiment of the colony.\*

"A vote was passed *that the sterling money counted in the Parliament of Great Britain to this Colony*, for reimbursing their expenses in taking & securing Cape Breton, & which may be granted for their expenses in the late expedition against Canada, be sold & bills of exchange drawn therefore." Fearing some advantage might be taken by non-residents of the colony, it was enacted: "That no part or sum of the sterling money aforesaid shall be sold to, nor any bill of exchange drawn therefore in favor of, any person who is not now an inhabitant within this Colony." Persons applying for these bills of exchange were not permitted to have them unless under oath giving full satisfaction that they intended using them only on their own or on the proper account of some of the settled inhabitants of the Colony. The Committee were ordered to sell ten thousand pounds sterling of these bills of exchange to be drawn in favor of the inhabitants of the Colony, "& to make & execute proper obligatory bonds, with two good & sufficient sureties, payable to the Governor & Company of this Colony . . . one-half in coined silver sterling alloy, at the rate of five shillings & four pence per ounce Troy weight, or in standard gold equivalent; & the other half in the now outstanding bills of credit of this Colony equivalent thereto at or before the first day of May, 1754, with interest at three pounds *per centum per annum* thereof, in like silver or gold, which interest shall be secured by several distinct bonds to be paid the first day of May annually." It was also resolved that the Governor should "be altogether saved harmless from all manner of costs, damages & expense that might in any way arise on account of his drawing any bill or bills of exchange ordered by the Assembly on the non-payment or protesting the same"†

Various question and acts for governing his Majesty's plantations in America were presented to the Assembly in a printed form, to be distributed throughout the colony. The several acts were mostly for the encouragement and benefit of his Majesty's trade in Great Britain, such as fisheries, the growth of raw silk in America, the importation of pig iron from America to England, "& to prevent the export of oil and

\* Col. Rec. Com., Vol. IX, p. 728.

† Col. Rec. Com., Vol. IX, p. 728.



*or other engine for slitting or rolling of iron; or of any plating forge to work with a tilt-hammer; or any furnace for making steel in any of the said colonies."* These oppressive acts were not made for the prosperity of the colonies, but solely for the advantage of English trade, and were most of them regarded as destructive to the vital interests and existence of the colonies.\*

Andrew Burr was commissioned colonel and Mr. Ebenezer Silliman major of the Fourth Regiment of the colony.†

Mr. Ebenezer Hubbell was commissioned captain, Mr. Benjamin Seeley lieutenant, and Mr. Daniel Noble ensign of the north company train-band of New Fairfield.

The taxable estates of Fairfield were valued at £47,561 2s. 2d.

Two hundred and fifty newly printed books of the laws of the colony were ordered to be distributed to the counties, of which forty-seven were to be sent to the County of Fairfield.‡

In reply to the series of questions sent from the Board of Trade and Plantations in England, a letter was dispatched about this time, in which a full account of the trade, shipping, manufactures, natural products, money in circulation, mines, whites, Indians and blacks, military forts and defences, strength of the neighboring Indians, influence of the French and Spanish colonies, the revenue and expenses of the colony and the established military and civil government.

The number of the inhabitants of the colony was represented to be about 70,000 whites, 500 Indians and 1,000 blacks. The militia about 10,000, from sixteen to fifty years of age. The Indians were represented to be idle and excessive drinkers, and that the French Canadians and Indians gave constant alarm from their fort at Crown Point in depredations on the frontiers of the neighboring colonies.§

At a town meeting held in March, Peter Penfield was given liberty to erect a grist mill on Ash-House Creek, near the mouth of the Unquowa River.||

On the 15th of December the useful, patriotic and valuable life of Colonel John Burr ended and his eyes closed on the scenes of earth. He died in his family mansion near the border-line between Stratfield and Fairfield, in the seventy-ninth year of his age. This place is known as

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. IX, p. 551.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol IX, p. 565.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. IX, p. 580.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. IX, p. 594.

|| Fairfield Town Votes.

the mansion northeast of the New York, New Haven and Hartford R.R. which will be remembered by many from the grand oak standing on his grounds, which died from the top downwards, until only the lower branches for many years sent out its leaves, so touchingly pointing to the life of its owner, who gave the best energies of his young life to the ecclesiastical, civil and military interests of the town of Fairfield and to the Colony of Connecticut, until the vital forces of his brave manhood gave place to the withering decay of old age. The land about his house was purchased of the Sagamores of the Pequonnock Indians, and it is said he effected this purchase while standing with them under this grand old oak. His life was one of great energy and manly dignity in all the public events of the colony. He was a Christian statesman and soldier, and he died as all such men die, happy in the prospect of a glorious immortality.\* He was buried in the old Pequonnock cemetery at Stratfield.

Fairfield did not wholly escape, even with the well-disciplined and cultivated Christian education of its inhabitants, something of the spirit of controversy which disturbed the colony during this year.

They were not a little disturbed on account of a controversy between the Rev. Noah Hobart and the Rev. Mr. Beach of Reading. Mr. Hobart published two addresses, "To the Members of the Episcopal Separation in New England." He argued that he was "under a full conviction that their separation was unjustifiable in itself, & in its effects very hurtful to the country, & to the cause of practical religion in it, & that it would, if it prevailed, prove pernicious to their posterity.

"The Rev. Moses Dickinson, the minister of the Congregational Church at Norwalk, wrote an appendix to the second address. The Rev. Mr. Whetmore of Rye, the Rev. Dr. Henry Caner of Boston, & the Rev. Dr. Samuel Johnson of Stratford, also became champions on the side of the Church of England. Mr. Hobart & his friends argued that the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts had not confined themselves to their first pretensions, viz.: that of converting the heathen & Indians in New England, according to the tenor of their charter, & sending their missionaries here for that purpose. The ministers of the Church of England, on the other hand, argued that this was not alone the object of the Honorable Society, but they were also sent to minister to such people as professed to be members of the Church of England."†

Controversies in those days were carried to great lengths, and party feeling on both sides was far from being controlled by the grace of charity

\* See Burr, Appendix Genealogies

† Rev. Noah Hobart's Second Address, p. 6.

They no doubt accomplished some good; but they also did a great deal of harm.

The new acts of the General Assembly, which obliged all the churches to be taxed for the support of the established churches of the colony, were particularly oppressive, and while the New Lights or Calvinists and the Baptists clamored against them, the ministers and people of the Church of England sought redress in an appeal made by Rev. Dr. Samuel Johnson to the Lord Bishop of London, at which time he continued to urge upon the Bishop the great necessity of a bishop in America. He begged direction of the Society how to proceed to obtain a title for holy orders for his young candidates; "whether £30 from the people can be accepted for a title, & if so, to whom they can apply for orders, since they have no title from the Society *for a long time*." . . . "They will, however," he wrote, "in the meantime, do as they best can, & I beg to be under the societie's direction & control, that if no Bishop should come over into these parts, we may be advised in time enough for them to go home in the fall, whether orders can be had upon such a title, and from whom."

In reply to these importunities the Bishop of London thus wrote to Dr. Johnson in the spring of 1752:

"I think myself at present in a very bad situation; Bishop of a vast country, without power or influence, or any means of promoting true religion; sequestered from the people over whom I have the care, & must never hope to see; I should be tempted to throw off all this care quite, were it not for the sake of preserving even the appearance of an Episcopal Church in the plantations."

About the same time Dr. Johnson complained to the King of the oppressive laws of the colony, and requested an amendment in the Charter of Charles II.\*

"Unfortunately the severe measures taken by the colony," says Dr. Benjamin Trumbull, "of enforcing the established church constitution by law, which never was originally designed, & was undoubtedly inconsistent with the rights of conscience, gave further ground of disaffection to the constitution of the established church, & of separation from the standing churches. The shutting out of the zealous & powerful preachers from their pulpits by numbers of the ministers; the suspending of persons from the communion of the churches, for hearing them in other parishes, had a further ill tendency to create distrust in their own ministers as to their real religion & to alienate their minds from them." At the same time Dr. Trumbull continues to state: "It is also abundantly evident, from the accounts given of those times, that there was a great defect with respect to the plain &

\* Hist. Prot. Epis. Church in Conn., Bishops Francis L. Hawkes, D.D., and William Stephen Perry.

faithful preaching of the doctrine of the reformation — it offered some opposition to the supernatural influences of the Divine Spirit; justification by faith, effectual calling; & the saints' perseverance. These doctrines were very little preached & insisted on by some of the clergy. Some were evidently Arminians. Others there were who preached nothing distinguishing, so that it could not be told what their opinions were. Imprisoning the separate preachers, & the cruel manner in which they were treated, tended to alienate them & fix them in their prejudices & separation. With respect to the errors which some of the separates seemed to hold at first, I do not find, by inquiry, that ever they preached or propagated them; especially with respect to the doctrine of the Trinity, they preached nothing, I believe, contrary to sound doctrine. Exclusive of some particulars, more especially relative to the constitution of churches & church discipline, they maintained the doctrines contained in the Westminster Catechism & confession of faith."

There is no doubt whatever but that large numbers throughout all New England, as well as in other parts of the country, were awakened to the full consciousness of vital Christianity, and that many were devoted followers of the Lord Jesus is fully proved by the writing of our most reliable historians.

The desire on the part of the established churches of the colony to enforce by legislative acts their peculiar line of thought upon all classes made it so plain to many that church and state would not exist under a republican form of government, that there arose throughout the colony a strong feeling of opposition against the existence of any established church whatever. To sever church and state had been the original design of their forefathers in coming to America. Liberty of conscience had been their watchword. Scarcely a century had passed when their descendants found themselves as closely bound to the control of an established church as that from which their ancestors had fled.

The approaching prospect of a bishop in the colony awakened a spirit not only of great opposition on the part of the established churches, but of persecution. The Church of England at Fairfield and Reading was composed of large numbers of the inhabitants of the town; and while by no means in numbers equal to those of the established church, they exercised a considerable power among the people. The Covenant of Green's Farms Congregational church, which undoubtedly was a copy of the first Covenant of Christ's Church at Fairfield, plainly shows that our forefathers were bitterly opposed to priestly power; for, while they "solemnly devoted themselves & their seed to the Lord to be His people," they added: "avouching Almighty God for our God & portion, avouching the Lord Jesus Christ for our Prophet & Teacher, & for our only Priest & Propitiation, & for our only King & Law Giver."



The severe laws which had so recently been enacted by the legislature were no doubt intended to prevent, if possible, the encroachments and growing power of the Church of England, as well as to put an end to any further advancement on the part of the separatists from the established church of the colony.

The new Congregational church at Fairfield was completed about this time, and by the oldest inhabitants of the town is represented as having been of a much richer style of architecture than that of the present church. Its dimensions were 60 by 44 feet, and its height 26 feet, with a steeple 120 feet high. A bell was soon after furnished, which is said to have been cast in Fairfield by a jeweler and clockmaker by the name of Whiting, whose store stood next to the late Judge Osborne's house. This bell was cast in a lot adjoining that in which the second Church of England stood, and which was afterwards the site of the Marine Hotel. This lot was for many years afterwards called the Bell Lot. The new bell was rung every night at nine o'clock, and also at twelve o'clock at noon.\*

Bishop Berkeley died about this time, in the seventy-third year of his age. President Clap, sensible of the benevolent spirit of this good man, thus wrote of him: "This college will always retain a grateful sense of his generosity and merits."

1751. The General Assembly met at Hartford, May 9th. Judge Ebenezer Silliman and Colonel Andrew Burr were present as Assistants, and Messrs. David Rowland and Thaddeus Burr as deputies from Fairfield.

Although peace had been declared between Great Britain and France, and Cape Breton had been ceded to the French under the treaty of Aix la Chapelle, in 1748, the French fully resolved to keep a strong foothold in America. They formed a plan to confine the English colonies to the country east of the Alleghanies, and to stretch a line of forts from Lake Champlain at Crown Point and Ticonderoga, and westward from the head of the St. Lawrence to the mouth of the Mississippi. They kept up with their Indian allies a constant harassment to the English border settlements.

Meanwhile "a company of English gentlemen & planters from West-

\* Mr. Whiting afterwards became a partner of Isaac Marquand, the grandfather of Frederic and Henry Marquand of Southport. One of the old-fashioned tall clocks made by Whiting and Marquand of Fairfield is now in the possession of Mr. Ebenezer Burr of Bridgeport.

minster, London & Virginia, obtained from the crown a charter for six thousand acres of land on or near the Ohio river.

This step the French resolved to frustrate, as they claimed all the country from the Mississippi and west of the Alleghamies. They pretended to have discovered the Mississippi, and to settle their claim they had erected a fort on the south side of Lake Erie, and one about fifteen miles south of that on a branch of the Ohio river, and still another at the junction of the Ohio and the Wabash.

The planters of Pennsylvania did not look favorably upon the Ohio charter, as they had largely controlled the trade with the Indians of that region, and gave information to the French of their designs.

The Governor of Canada resolved, therefore, to break up this new enterprise in Ohio. English traders among the Twightwees were seized and imprisoned at the French fort on Lake Erie, which the Twightwees resented, being allies of the English traders. They in turn seized the French traders and sent them to Pennsylvania.

The Indians of Ohio, not having received any recompense, or even given consent to the settlement of strangers within their borders, united with the French to oppose the enterprise.

Governor Wolcott having received a letter from Governor Clinton of New York to join with him in securing the Four Nations as allies against the French, the Assembly appointed two commissioners to meet with Governor Clinton's commissioners and those of other colonies, to treat with the Indians of the Six Nations and their allies, "to confirm them in the British interests, & to give a sum of sixty pounds to the representatives of the Six Nations."\*

At the October session of the Assembly Mr. Samuel Odell was commissioned captain, Mr. William Bennet lieutenant, and Mr. Nathan Smiley ensign of the train-band of Stratfield, and Mr. John Jennings second lieutenant of the fifth train-band of Fairfield.

A form and order of prayer to be used for the royal family of King George, was by an order of his Majesty in council, sent "to the Governor & Company of the Colony, forthwith to publish the same in the several parish churches & other places of divine worship within the colony, & to take care that due obedience be paid thereunto." Accordingly, the Governor and the Assembly ordered that a proclamation be issued, which should be distributed in all the parishes. Among the people of the

\* Col. Rec. Comm. Vol. X., p. 107.

Church of England this prayer was acceptable; but among many of the established church it, no doubt, was far from agreeable. They bent their necks, however, to the yoke laid upon them; but in their hearts they were even as their forefathers had been, as much opposed to praying for the King as they were resolved upon not having a bishop within their borders. A loud cry for help and protection from the Church of England was sent to the mother country, whose missionaries reported to the Honorable Society, "that at this time there are many in several places, that are at such a distance from any incumbent in orders, that they cannot have the benefit of the law, & so are imprisoned for non-payment to dissenters." And again: "there are now some ministers of the Church of England in prison on account of their persecution from the dissenters;" to which was added the statement, "these sort of complaints come by almost every ship."

On the second Lord's day in October a large body of people met at the house of John Sherwood, in Stratfield, to listen to the Rev. Joshua Morse, a Baptist preacher, who had been converted under Whitefield, and who was principally instrumental in gathering a church in that part of New London called Montville. He was not ordained until about 1751. Six men and four women "gave out a particular relation of the word of God upon their souls to the satisfaction & comfort of Elder Morse & each other. Each one particularly gave up himself first to God & to each other by the will of God, to walk together as heirs of the grace of life, in all the laws & ordinances of God's house."

"After solemn dedication & prayer to Almighty God, Elder Morse proceeded & went on in the ordinances of baptism, by *plunging under water* each particular member." The names of those baptised were *Zechariah Mead, Nathaniel Seely, Elihu Marsh, John Sherwood, Ebenezer Sanford, Samuel Beardsley, Elizabeth Seely, Mary Sherwood, Sarah Beardsley & Martha Jennings*. The last named person had been baptized before."

It appears from a "Sketch of the History of the Stratfield Baptist Church," by the Rev. A. N. Benedict, that this was the first Baptist Church in Fairfield County. There was no public recognition by delegates from other churches, as at the present time, the nearest Baptist churches being at New London and Groton.

Mr. Benedict states that this church was formed under great opposition, "having sprung out of the *New Lights Stir*." He represents the Rev. Samuel Cook to have been a strong sympathizer with Mr. White-

field, and that "he labored to secure his presence & persuading among his people"; but his successor, the Rev. Lyman Hall, proved himself an opposer of the New Lights, in consequence of which several protested against him, among whom were those who afterwards united in forming the Baptist Church. The Baptists at this time were called also Separatists, because, in order to carry out their religious views, they were obliged to separate from the established church of the colony.

In October the Society of Stratfield presented a memorial to the General Assembly praying to have their parish bounds enlarged. Their petition was granted and the bounds set as follows:

"Whereas in the setting off the parish of Stratfield, Anno 1706, from the first society in Fairfield, it so happened that the act of this Assembly setting off said parish did not settle & fix the line dividing between the said first society & said parish, any nearer the southwesterly extent of both said societies than where said line intersects the country road near Jackson's mill so called, though both said societies have mutually agreed in their practice of a line dividing between said societies for more than fifty years last past, which line runs from said country road southerly as the river or creek runs on which said Jackson's mill stood, commonly known by the name of Oncowa River or creek till it comes due west from the north end of the cove in the Black Rock harbor, which said cove heads or terminates at or near the place called the Old Fort, & then to run strait from said creek to the head of said cove, & so strait to the head of the sea or sound; & it having thus long obtained by the mutual consent & practical agreement of each said society, ought still to continue. And it is ordered to prevent any further difficulties that may arise between said societies for want of the settlement of said line by act of this Assembly: It is therefore resolved & enacted by the Governor, Council & Representatives in General Court assembled, & by the authority of the same, that the aforementioned & described line from the county road southerly by said river or creek to the head, & from thence to the sea or sound, shall be & remain to be the dividing line between the first society in Fairfield & the said parish of Stratfield."\*

1752. The General Assembly met May 14th, at Hartford. Judge Ebenezer Silliman and Colonel Andrew Burr were present as Assistants, and Mr. David Rowland and Captain Samuel Burr deputies from Fairfield. Captain John Glover was appointed surveyor for the County of Fairfield.† Ebenezer Silliman was appointed one of the Judges of the Superior Court, and Colonel Andrew Burr Judge of the County Court and of the District Probate Court of Fairfield.

Mr. Samuel Sandford was commissioned lieutenant of the train-band of Reading.‡ Mr. Thomas Nash lieutenant, and Mr. Daniel Andrews ensign of Green's Farms train-band, in the Fourth Regiment.§

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, pp. 139, 147.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 70.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 75.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 70.



At the October meeting of the Assembly, in New Haven, Mr. Gold Sellick Silliman was appointed surveyor for the County of Fairfield.\*

Mr. John Jennings was commissioned lieutenant of the fifth train-band of Fairfield.

The taxable estates of Fairfield were valued at £50,743 1s. 8d.

Mr. David Allen was commissioned lieutenant and Mr. Samuel Hubbell ensign of the first train-band of Fairfield.

At a town meeting held June 8th, it was voted that Judge Ebenezer Silliman and Mr. David Rowland should be a committee to present a memorial to the General Assembly in October, for an explanation of the law of this colony respecting keeping and maintaining a grammar school in each head or county town in this colony. Passed in the affirmative.

It was also: "Voted that Thaddeus Burr & David Burr should be a committee to inquire into the state & incumbency of the school-land in Fairfield, & make a report thereof to the next town meeting."

The General Assembly: "Voted that instead of forty shillings upon every thousand pounds in the lists of the respective towns in the colony, by law ordered to be paid for the support of schools, that the treasurer should pay ten shillings lawful money (which was silver money) upon every thousand in the several lists, out of the tax rates of three farthings lawful money, & no more."

They also passed the following law against the growing evil of traveling on the Lord's day:

*"Be it enacted by the Governor, Council & Representatives, in the General Court assembled, & by the authority of the same, that every assistant in this Colony, & every justice of the peace, within the limits of their authority, are hereby impowered & directed when they shall have plain view or personal knowledge thereof, either with or without a written warrant, to cause all persons unnecessarily travelling on the Sabbath or Lord's day to be apprehended, & to examine them, & if need be, to command any person or persons to seize, arrest & secure any such persons unnecessarily travelling on the Lord's day as aforesaid, & them to hold till judgment may be had thereon."*†

1753. The General Assembly met at Hartford, May 10th. Judge Ebenezer Silliman and Colonel Andrew Burr were present as Assistants, and Mr. David Rowland and Captain Samuel Burr as deputies from Fairfield. Ebenezer Silliman was appointed one of the Judges of the Superior Courts of the colony and Colonel Andrew Burr Judge of County Courts and the Probate Court of Fairfield.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, pp. 122, 124, 128,

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 45.

A tax of three pence for the pound was levied on all polls and taxable estates of the towns towards the expenses of the colony.

Houses of correction were ordered to be erected in each county for punishing "rogues, vagrants, common beggars and other loud, idle, dissolute, profane & disorderly persons for setting them to work, & for the more effectual preventing & punishment of thieves." Persons escaping from any house of correction were ordered "to be whipped upon the naked body not exceeding thirty stripes."\*

Mr. Gershom Bradley was commissioned lieutenant and Mr. John Cable ensign of the seventh train-band of Fairfield.†

The town of Fairfield suffered severely from an epidemic in the months of July and August, two or three being buried daily from its ravages.‡

At the meeting of the Assembly in October, Colonel John Read of Reading was commissioned major of the Fourth Regiment of the colony.§

Mr. Thomas Nash was commissioned captain, Mr. Daniel Andrews lieutenant and Mr. Dennie Chapman ensign of the Green's Farms train-band.||

Courts of arbitration were established at this session of the Assembly.

An act was also passed for curing and packing tobacco. Also an act to prevent a multiplicity of law suits.

A letter was read before the Assembly from the English Secretary of State, "directing that the arms & military stores made use of for the intended expedition against Canada, lodged in the colony, should be sent to Governor Shirley of Massachusetts." This demand was complied with, provided Governor Shirley gave a receipt in full "for said arms & military stores as had been lodged in this colony."

The introduction of a "newly invented water machine brought from Scotland & Ireland for dressing flax, was welcomed by a vote of encouragement for fifteen years; & to be set & used in all of the towns of the colony. The introduction & control of this machine was to be under the sole care of Jabez Hamlin & Elihu Chauncey."¶

In the year 1751 Lord Chesterfield, assisted by the Earl of Macclesfield and Mr. Bradley, two of the ablest mathematicians in Europe, introduced into Parliament a bill for the reformation of the calendar. The

\* Col. Rec. Conn. Vol. X, p. 109.

† William Wheeler's Journal of Fairfield.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn. Vol. X, p. 199.

§ Col. Rec. Conn. Vol. X, p. 109.

|| Col. Rec. Conn. Vol. X, p. 109.

¶ Col. Rec. Conn. Vol. X, p. 110.

Julian or *Old Style* calendar, then in use, had been corrected by Pope Gregory XIII. in 1582, and was called the Gregorian calendar or *New Style*, and adopted by all the countries on the continent except Sweden and Russia. The error of the *Old Style* had grown to eleven days. In consequence, Chesterfield and his friends arranged to have the year 1753 begin January 1st instead of *March 21st Old Style*, “& nominally suppressing 11 days in September, 1752, in order to bring the calendar in unison with the actual state of the solar year.” This change, when accepted by Parliament, displeased many people, who regarded it as popish, and others felt that they had lost eleven days.

Steps were also taken “to maintain in their soundness the faith & church theology of the established church in the chief seat of learning,” and to this end the following resolution and grant was made by the General Assembly at this time:

“Whereas one principal end proposed in erecting & supporting Yale College in New Haven was to supply the churches of this Colony with a learned, pious & orthodox ministry, to which purpose it is requisite that the students of the said college should have the best instructions in divinity & the best patterns of preaching set before them: And whereas the settling a learned, pious & orthodox professor of divinity in the said college would greatly tend to promote that good end & design: And whereas the present incomes of the said college are but in part sufficient to support such a professor: This Assembly being desirous to promote & encourage such a good design, do hereby grant & allow of & order a general contribution to be made in all the religious societies in this Colony, & recommend the same to both ministers & people, & order that the money raised thereby be remitted to the president of said college, to be improved by the corporation towards the support of such a professor.” \*

The heavy expenses and consequent taxes laid upon the colonists to carry on the French war, which soon after commenced, led to a change in the proposed contributions for the college, and subscriptions to be taken in each town were adopted instead, by which the amount desired was raised, of which Fairfield bore her proportion.

The President and fellows of the college, dreading the effects of the teachings of the New Lights upon the students, as also the efforts of the people that the students of the Church of England should attend their own church, withdrew some of the students from the first society in New Haven. President Clap was invited to fill the place of a professor of divinity until that office was fully established, and the students and faculty from this time attended worship on the Lord's day at the college hall under the teachings of the President.†

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 213.

† Trumbull's Hist. Conn., Vol. 2, p. 315.

"At a meeting of the president & fellows of Yale College Nov. 12. 1753. The Rev. Thomas Clap, President; The Rev. Messrs. Jared Eliot, Joseph Stoddard, Samuel Benjamin Lord, William Russell, Thomas Atwood, Solomon Williams, & seven others fellows, adopted a series of lines requiring that teachers of their own college, as President, the Professor of Divinity, & others should give their assent to the Westminster Catechism & Confession of Faith, & should renounce all doctrines & principles contrary thereto, & pass through such an examination as the corporation should order."\*

The fellows of the college consented to the following form: "I, \_\_\_\_\_, a fellow of Yale College, do hereby declare that I believe that the Assembly catechism & the confession of faith received & established in the churches of this colony, & in this college, contain a true & just summary of the most important doctrines of the Christian religion; & that the true sense of the sacred scriptures is justly collected & summed up in those compositions. And all expositions of scripture pretending to deduce any doctrine or position contrary to the said doctrines laid down in those composures, I believe are wrong & erroneous, & I will always take all reliable measures, & such as christian prudence may direct in my place & station, to continue & propagate the doctrines contained in those summaries of religion in this college, & transmit them to all future successions & generations; & use the like measures to prevent the contrary doctrines from prevailing in this society."

"I do also consent to the rules of Church discipline established in the ecclesiastical constitution of the churches of this colony."

A fine was imposed upon all students who should attend the Church of England except communicants, and they only were allowed this privilege on Christmas, and when the Lord's Supper was administered.†

A strong feeling of opposition on the part of many in the colony was raised against the measures taken by the legislature and officers of the college. Their laws were regarded by the people of the Church of England as harsh and intolerant. Nevertheless, the sons of the Puritans were firm in their purpose of allowing no other than the established church of the colony to govern and control its most important institution of learning.

New controversies sprang up, and a feeling of general disquietude prevailed in the colony. The ministers of the established church preached "the awful guilt of separating from them," and heaped upon the Church of England the anathemas of the times. On the other hand, the clergy of the Church of England maintained their ground by strong arguments, and, as English missionaries from the Society of the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, they reported doleful accounts of their oppressed situation; begged for a repeal of the new acts from King George, and many loud voices were raised throughout the colony against the established church.

\* President Welles's Hist. Div. Conn. p. 10.

† Dr. Benjamin Trumbull Acc. O. 11. 40. 414.



The Church of England at Fairfield and Reading was at this time in a most flourishing condition. The Rev. Noah Hobart and his congregation enjoyed the pleasure of worshipping in their new and beautiful church. The First Congregational Church at Stratfield invited the Rev. Robert Ross to become their pastor. They had been in an unsettled condition since the Rev. Mr. Hall left them, but at length united in calling Mr. Ross. This gentleman was of Irish descent, but he was born in America in 1726. He graduated at Princeton College and received his diploma from President Burr in 1751. He was ordained at Stratfield November 28, 1753. Many interesting accounts are given of this remarkable man. He is described as having been a man of great strength of character, fine intellectual attainments, particularly in the classics, warm and generous hearted, kind and benevolent, with an ample share of that native humor so inherent in the nature of an Irishman. His theological views were those of the Old Lights. "He was about six feet in height & well proportioned; wore a wig, cocked hat, ruffled shirt, black coat, vest & breeches with knee-buckles, & white topped boots, cramped so as to set tight on the instep."

Once, while journeying on horseback, he had the misfortune to get his boots so wet that he was obliged to take them off to dry them; but when he attempted to put them on he found he could not, so he tied them with his mail straps to his saddle. On the way he met the Rev. Joseph Bellamy of Woodbury, who was particularly distinguished among the New Lights. "Now," said Mr. Ross, "you think you can reconcile foreordination with free-will?" "Yes," replied Mr. Bellamy, "I certainly do." "Well then," said Mr. Ross, "you cannot even tell me why my boots are tied on behind me!"

While an earnest believer in the doctrines of foreordination, election and free will, Mr. Ross denied the power of man to reconcile them. He advocated the milk of the word of God for his congregation, arguing that strong meat was not to be set before them, thereby causing many to stumble.

He was pastor of the Stratfield Church for more than forty-two years. During the Revolution he was one of the strongest advocates in the colony for their rights and independence. Of his patriotism at that time mention will be made hereafter.

The new church at Reading was not completed until 1752. The Rev. John Bartlett, the second pastor of the Reading Congregational church,

was ordained May 23, 1753. The Rev. Mr. White of Daulbury made the first prayer. The Rev. Mr. Todd of East Guilford preached the sermon. Rev. Mr. Kent made the ordaining prayer. Rev. Mr. Willis of Ripton gave the charge. Rev. Mr. Judson of Newtown gave the right hand of fellowship, and Rev. Mr. Ingersoll of Ridgefield made the concluding prayer.

1754. The General Assembly met at Hartford, May 9th. Judge Ebenezer Silliman and Colonel Andrew Burr were present as Assistants, and Captain John Read and Captain Samuel Burr as deputies from Fairfield. Ebenezer Silliman was appointed one of the Judges of the Superior Court of the colony, and Colonel Andrew Burr Judge of the County and Probate Court of Fairfield.

Mr. Ezra Hawley was commissioned cornet and Mr. Ichabod Lewis quartermaster of the troop of horse in the Fourth Regiment of the colony.\*

Mr. Samuel Sandford was commissioned captain, Mr. Daniel Hull lieutenant and Mr. John Read, Jr., ensign of the train band in the western parish of Reading.\*

Mr. Joshua Hall was commissioned captain, Mr. James Morgan lieutenant, and Mr. Daniel Lyon ensign in the eastern train-band of the parish of Reading.\*

Frequent seizures of English traders by the French and their Indian allies offended the Virginians so that Lieutenant-Governor Dinwiddie dispatched Major Washington with a body of armed men to demand of M. St. Pierre, in command on the Ohio, the reasons of his hostile conduct; and to insist that he should withdraw his troops. The Virginians attempted to raise a fort at the junction of the Ohio and Monongahela,

The French commander disclaimed all intent of hostility, on the ground that the French possessed the property under its king, and that he should oppose any invasion of the country. He seized upon the partly constructed fort of the Virginians, and with a force of one thousand men and eighteen pieces of cannon drove them from the country. He erected a fort on the spot begun by the Virginians, which he named Fort Du Quesne. Every English trader but two was murdered or driven from the country, and their furs and skins seized, which were valued at about twenty thousand pounds.

The English colonists resolved not to allow the French the great ad-

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 261.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 263.

vantage of controlling the lakes, the Mississippi river and all the lands west of them, besides their valuable trade in furs and skins with the Indians. They realized, too, the danger from the Lake regions by way of the mouth of the Mississippi with the West India trade, and, therefore, resolved to contest inch by inch with France in their scheme of so great a magnitude. Immediate orders were sent to Virginia to resist and frustrate the efforts of the French; and the other colonies were instructed to assist them. Major Washington was promoted to the rank of colonel and placed in command of the Virginia troops. He was soon joined by Captain James Mackay of South Carolina. Without waiting for two more companies on their way from New York, Colonel Washington, with four hundred men, set out for Fort Du Quesne. On his way he fell in, May 28th, with a party from that fort, and completely routed them. Upon learning of this defeat the commander of the fort, De Villiers, marched against Colonel Washington's forces with an army of nine hundred men, besides their Indian allies. Washington meanwhile had entrenched himself with hastily erected works to await the coming of the New York forces. With his small force he fought the French so bravely that, recognizing they had in him and his men a brave and resolute foe, soon made overtures of capitulation. Washington and his brave men returned to Virginia.

It was recommended by the Lords of Trade and Plantations that commissioners from each colony should meet and consider the best way to defeat the designs of the French.

The General Assembly of Connecticut agreed to send the Hon. William Pitkin, Roger Wolcott, Jr., and Elisha Williams as commissioners, to meet with commissioners from the other colonies at Albany on the 14th of June, and join with them in concerting measures for the general defence and safety of his Majesty's subjects against the French and their Indian allies, and to report to the next session of the Assembly.

Connecticut having been so heavily drained of her men and resources and so meagerly rewarded, Governor Roger Wolcott and his associates gave explicit instructions to the commissioners, while joining in a petition to the King of England for assistance and protection against the French and Indians, and to prepare themselves to make exhibits of the larger share Connecticut had borne in proportion to her capacity, in comparison to the most southern colonies in former wars, and the greater benefit they would derive in this proposed war. They were instructed

to agree to no further expense than for the present necessary to furnish no money to Indians, and that they should enter into no agreement with the other commissioners until the Assembly approved of the arrangement for such a combination of defence.\*

On the 14th of June the Governor and commissioners from the several colonies met at Albany, when, upon deliberation, it was the general opinion: "That a grand council should be formed of members chosen by the assemblies & sent from all the colonies: which council should consist of a governor-general, to be appointed by the crown, who should be empowered to make general laws, & to raise money, in all the colonies for the defence of the whole."

This combination of the English colonies for mutual defence and protection was deemed by many wise, and the only expedient for the good of the whole, as previously some of the colonies had alone defended themselves without assistance from Great Britain or the other colonies.

At the meeting of the General Assembly in New Haven, October 31st, it was resolved to reject this combination of the colonies, as it was regarded to be too extensive to be controlled by one President-General and Council, and must necessarily prove ruinous. The proposition was rejected with indignation, and the Assembly refused to make any application to the Parliament of England in an act to form such plan of union.†

Another great objection on the part of Connecticut was, that it had been proposed to make two separate unions of colonies, one consisting of the colonies of New England, New York and New Jersey, and the other of the colonies of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia and North and South Carolina. Connecticut had suffered too severely in the past from the ambitious designs of English and other provincial governors to be caught napping, and had not the slightest idea of yielding to the long sought for ambition of the enemies of her sacred precincts and liberties to encourage an English Governor-General. The Connecticut agent in England was instructed to oppose any agreement to such a combination of government and defence of the colonies.

Fortunately, this union of the colonies was rejected by the Parliament of Great Britain, for they had arranged a very different plan, by which the governors of the colonies, with one or more of their councils, should form a convention to provide measures for the general defence of the colonies, erect forts and raise forces, and to draw on the British treasury

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 278.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 279.



to reimburse them. But Great Britain, while offering her plan, announced that the parliament would tax the colonies to pay the whole sums necessary for all such expenditures. This plan threw all the colonies into a state of the utmost indignation, as a direct blow to their liberties, wealth and prosperity; in fact, they saw that they were to be made slaves to the will of parliament and impoverished by taxation. They, therefore, resolved to struggle against such oppressive measures, and to oppose it with all their power.\*

The Assembly commissioned Mr. Nathan Hurd captain, Mr. Isaac Bennet lieutenant, and Mr. Solomon Burton ensign of the train-band enlisted out of the companies in the north part of the parishes of Stratfield and North Stratford.†

The taxable estates of Fairfield were valued at £50,865 3s. 6d.

The ecclesiastical and educational interests at Fairfield, as well as throughout the colony of Connecticut, were at this time subjects of grave consideration. The Rev. Noah Hobart, like his revered predecessor the Rev. Joseph Webb, was fully alive to all the interests of Yale College. It cannot be said of Mr. Hobart that he was altogether as peaceably disposed towards the Church of England as Mr. Webb had been, for he not only entered into controversies with her clergymen at home, but was equally active as a fellow of Yale College in preventing any encroachments whatever on the part of Dr. Johnson and others of her clergy gaining the slightest control over the college.

The spirit of disquietude which had been raised during the previous year on account of the president, tutors and students withdrawing from attending the First Congregational Church at New Haven, thereby bringing the students more particularly under the teaching of the President, rather tended, for the time being, to create no little trouble in carrying out this design.

In order to show the origin and designs of colleges, their rights and privileges, President Clap issued a small tract, entitled "The Religious Constitution of Colleges," the main arguments of which were to show, "that every distinct society, founded for religious purposes, is, or at least may be a distinct worshipping assembly"; and that the religious training of the students, particularly on the Sabbath, ought to be conducted by the authority of the college.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 293. Trumbull's Hist. Conn., Vol. 2, pp. 356, 357.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 314.

"Many tongues & pens & all manner of objections," Mr. [unintelligible] stated "were employed both against the government & the college. Some argued that the business of colleges was to teach the arts & sciences only; & that religion was no part of a college education; & that therefore no religious worship ought to be upheld or enjoined by the laws of the college, but that every student should be allowed to worship how & where he pleased, or as his parents & guardians should direct.

"The President claimed that there probably had never existed a college under such a constitution, & that for the welfare of the young, just intrusted to his custody, & duty of the tutors, they should be directly under their strict observation, both in regard to their attendance and behaviour during divine worship, not only on week days, but particularly on the Lord's day. It was also claimed that parents at a distance could not govern their children at college, & that no parent can have a right to put his child to be the member of any society, & then order him to break the laws & rules of it by not conforming to the regulations & laws of that society.

"On the other hand, it was claimed that the college acted upon the principles of liberty of conscience; that the founding of a college or school might allow such limitations of conscience as was consistent with the religious views of the faculty or students.

"This was followed by the argument that the great design of the college was to educate ministers in the faith of the established church of the colony, & for this reason it was necessary that the students should ordinarily attend upon the worship so established, & should they give up that law & order, the college would serve designs & purposes contrary to those for which it was originally founded, which they could not permit. Upon the principles of natural liberties & privileges allowed to free & voluntary societies of men the college must be governed, & their particular rights were to determine their own mode of government & the conditions of their own favors & benefits to others.

"Again it was claimed that the Church of England was the established church of the colony, & therefore the students ought to attend the worship of that church. And some went so far as to claim that not to attend the services of the Church of England was to be schismatic & seditious.

"In reply, it was argued that the acts of parliament in the common prayer book confined the establishment of the church of England to England & Wales, & the town of Berwick upon the Tweed, & that no act could be found whereby the statutes of England did not extend to the colonies unless expressly mentioned.

"The large donations made to the college by Bishop Berkeley & Governor Yale, who were churchmen, was held out as still another reason why the college should be controlled by the Church of England. To this reply was made that the donors had full knowledge of the design of those who founded the college; & that they had no reason to suppose that either Bishop Berkeley or Governor Yale had had the least idea whatever that any alteration would be made in the original laws of the college favoring the Church of England, or any other society.

"There were many in the colony who continued to oppose the establishment of a professor of divinity, & a distinct worship in the college. Some of the leading gentlemen of New Haven as well as in other parts of the colony, who were opposed to the Assembly Catechism & to the Confession of Faith adopted by the established church. These men became strong opposers of the resolves & declarations of the corporation of Nov., 1753."

The president and fellows at the college, however, continued firm in their resolution to establish a professor of divinity at an early date, and steps were forthwith taken to effect this end.

While the attention of the intelligent gentlemen of every town in the colony was occupied with the interests of Yale College, many opposers of the President and fellows found a solace for their disquietude in the proposed establishment of King's (now Columbia) College in New York.

Influenced by the energy of Benjamin Franklin, who at this time was making active preparations towards erecting a college in Philadelphia, a number of gentlemen in New York, principally of the Church of England, engaged in taking measures towards founding a college within their own borders. Accordingly, in 1753, they obtained an Act of Assembly by which Lieutenant Governor De Lancy and other gentlemen Trustees or Commissioners, were given authority to carry this design into effect.

The Rev. Dr. Samuel Johnson of Stratford, who had eagerly been sought by Franklin "as the future Provost of the college" he was about to erect in Philadelphia, but which he declined, was now chosen President of King's College, New York, January, 1754. Dr. Johnson was also chosen to be an assistant minister of Trinity Church in connection with his office as President of King's College.

A charter was asked for, in which it was proposed by a majority of the Trustees that the college should be under the control of the Church of England. This was warmly opposed by those who did not favor that Church. It was granted, however, soon after. Among its conditions were those upon which the Corporation of Trinity Church gave a portion of the King's Farm to build the College on, viz.: "that the President be forever in communion with the Church of England," and "the Morning & Evening Service of the College should be the Liturgy of the said Church, or a collection of prayers from her Liturgy."

Dr. Johnson did not move his family to New York until after the charter was granted, and his successor chosen at Stratford. His removal was regarded as a great loss to the people throughout Connecticut, but specially so to his devoted parishioners at Stratford, and his friends in the neighboring towns where he frequently officiated. At Fairfield his name was familiar in every Church of England home, and the prosperity of Trinity Church in its infancy, was greatly owing to the zeal and bravery of this remarkable man. By the clergy of Fairfield he was looked up to and revered as a father. From his companions in the ministry he continued to receive visits and letters of counsel when perplexities arose in their parishes after his removal to New York. As the senior missionary

of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, he had acted the part of a father towards them; and as such they continued to consult with him, even to the time of his death.

Many who were opposed to the laws and regulations of Yale College found an institution of learning in King's College, which met with their approval. In a short time the latter was equally in as flourishing a condition as the former.

1755. The General Assembly met at Hartford, January 8th, to take into consideration the assistance Connecticut had been called upon by Great Britain to give against the French in America. It was agreed to render all possible assistance to his Majesty, "at the cost & charge of the colony." The expense of such an undertaking being far greater than the colony could afford, it was ordered that seven thousand five hundred pounds in bills of credit paying an interest of five per cent., to be redeemed in 1758, should be struck off, and a tax of two per cent. levied on all the taxable estates of the colony to redeem them.\*

Judge Ebenezer Silliman and Colonel Andrew Burr, with two others, were appointed a committee to assist the Governor with their advice and counsel. Colonel Andrew Burr was also made one of a committee to enlist, supply and furnish the forces to be raised in the colony and others that might arrive from Europe "at the cost & expense of the colony."†

The Assembly met again March 13th, when the colony was called upon by Governor Shirley of Massachusetts to join with New Hampshire, Rhode Island and New York in an "attempt to erect a strong fortress upon the eminence near the French Fort at Crown Point, or some other desirable point for his Majesty's forces; & to remove all encroachments upon his territories." Governor Shirley recommended that five thousand men be raised for this expedition, twelve hundred from Massachusetts, one thousand from Connecticut, six hundred from New Hampshire, Rhode Island four hundred and New York eight hundred. By this it will be seen that Connecticut was called upon to raise a much larger supply of men in proportion to her size than Massachusetts or New York.

The Assembly promptly ordered that one thousand men should be immediately raised, armed and equipped to join the other provincial forces, and in case any emergency should arise, five hundred more men were to be raised to reinforce this number. All the neighboring govern-

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 328.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 177.



ments were counseled to hold the same reserve of troops in readiness for the final success of the expedition.

An act was passed for supplying the treasury for the present extraordinary emergencies, and for creating and issuing bills of credit. Every person in possession of outstanding bills of credit of the colony was required to deliver them to a committee appointed to receive them, and from them receive receipts of their value with lawful interest, at the rate of one-third of their value, to be paid in three orders dated May, 1756, 1757 and 1758. The committee were to compute the outstanding bills of credit in the following proportions: "For every fifty-eight shillings & eight pence old tenor, one ounce of coined silver; & for every forty-two pounds of old tenor, one ounce of coined gold; & the new tenor bills to be computed at one shilling of the new for three shillings & sixpence of the old tenor." The treasurer was instructed to deliver into the hands of the committee, "out of the silver & gold lodged in his hands for the sale of the sterling bills of exchange that have been drawn & sold for the money granted to this Colony by the Parliament of Great Britain for reimbursing the expenses of the expedition against Cape Breton & that intended against Canada, at the same rate he received it into the treasury;" and the committee were instructed to compute it into the lawful money as follows: "Spanish milled dollars at six shillings each, & other silver coins according to their value at this rate, & standing gold at five pounds per ounce troy weight." For the punctual discharge of the orders to be drawn on the treasurer and the other charges and expenses of the colony, "in lieu of a three-farthing tax granted in October & a three-farthing tax in January, a tax of four pence was levied on all the polls & taxable estates of the colony," to be paid into the treasury the following December, in gold, silver, bills of credit, or in the produce of the country at its lawful valuation.

It was further ordered that twelve thousand pounds in bills of credit should be printed. A tax of three pence half-penny was levied on all the towns in the colony to discharge the payment of such bills. All acts of the assembly in the public defences were ordered to be kept secret.\*

Every able-bodied man who enlisted for the expedition was granted a bounty of thirteen shillings. A further allowance was made to each man who provided himself with a military outfit, and that he be paid the month's wages in advance.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, pp. 336-341.

It was agreed that a proclamation to encourage volunteers should be issued by Governor Fitch.

The one thousand men to be raised were to form two regiments consisting of six companies each, commanded by a colonel, lieutenant-colonel and major, each of whom was to have the command of a company as captain thereof, with lieutenants and one standard-bearer.

Pack horses were ordered to be purchased for carrying baggage and other necessary stores.

William Johnson was commissioned lieutenant-general and commander-in-chief of the forces, Phineas Lyman major-general and David Lacey of Fairfield first lieutenant of the fifth company, under the command of Captain Samuel Whiting of Stratford.\*

In order to maintain the supremacy of the magistrates of the colony, all power to equip and call for volunteers was vested in commissioners appointed by the Governor.

The Committee of War in the County of Fairfield was ordered to hold themselves in readiness to obey the Governor when he should call for assistance.

The town clerks of each town were ordered to read at a freeman's meeting, a printed copy of an act of Parliament to regulate and restrain paper bills of credit in the Connecticut colony, as well as in several other colonies, and to prevent the same being legal tender in payment of money.†

At the same time orders were given by the Assembly that all necessary expenditures should be paid, two-thirds in bills of credit and one-third in silver or gold.

At the regular meeting of the Assembly held at Hartford, May 8th, Judge Ebenezer Silliman and Colonel Andrew Burr were present as assistants and Mr. David Rowland and Mr. William Burr as deputies.‡

Ebenezer Silliman was chosen Judge of the Superior Court of the colony. Colonel Andrew Burr, Judge of the Fairfield County Court and District Probate Courts.

Mr. Daniel Andrews was commissioned captain of the third train-

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, pp. 346, 347.

† See the Connecticut Bill.

‡ It was during the meeting of this assembly that the claims of the Indians to a large tract of land, belonging in part to the Six Nations, were approved and recommended to the King's royal favor.—Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 378.

band, Phineas Chapman, lieutenant of the first train-band and David Coley ensign of the second train-band of Greens Farms.\*

Upon the recommendation of the Governor of New York it was deemed expedient that Connecticut should raise five hundred more men, but the Assembly agreed to raise only three hundred more, "in consequence of having already raised a very large proportion in the colony, now ready to march."†

The Governor was requested to send a proclamation to each town that a day be set apart for fasting and prayer in each ecclesiastical society for the success of the departing soldiers.‡

Four expeditions had been planned by England, one against the French on the Ohio under General Braddock, a second against Nova Scotia, a third against Crown Point, and a fourth against Niagara.

It was deemed necessary to make an immediate attack on the French fortifications on the Ohio; consequently, General Braddock sailed from Cork in January, with fifteen hundred regulars for Virginia, and in about six weeks reached America.

The French during the spring set sail with a powerful armament and four thousand troops under the command of Baron Dieskau. A still larger fleet was sent out from England, of six thousand land forces under Admirals Boscawen and Holburn.

The General Assembly met at Hartford August 24th, when a letter from General Johnson was read, giving an account of the design of the French to secure Crown Point, with a request that additional troops be sent without loss of time. The Assembly forthwith ordered that two more regiments be raised of seven hundred and fifty men each, who should receive the same bounty and pay as those already in service. Samuel Talcott, Esq., was commissioned colonel of the first regiment and captain of the first company; Eliphalet Dyer, lieutenant-colonel of the same regiment and captain of the second company; Joseph Wooster major of the same regiment and captain of the third company and Samuel Hubbell first lieutenant of the third company.

Elihu Chauncey, Esq., was commissioned colonel of the fourth regiment; Andrew Ward, Jr., lieutenant-colonel and captain of the first company; William Whiting major and captain of the third company.§

Bills of credit to the amount of thirty thousand pounds were ordered

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, pp. 360, 361, 363.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 395.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 390.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 399.

to be printed towards defraying the expenses of the expedition. Accordingly which a tax was levied of four per cent. on the pound on all the polls and taxable estates of the colony. Any constable who should neglect to collect and pay to the colony treasurer this tax before June, 1760, the treasurer was ordered to send and collect it "out of the estate of the negligent one, any law, usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding."\*

At the October session of the General Assembly, Daniel Sherwood was commissioned captain, Ezra Hawley lieutenant, Ichabod Lewis cornet, and John Moss quartermaster of the Fourth Regiment of the colony.\*

A further order was given to print twelve thousand bills of credit equal to lawful money, to redeem which a tax of three pence on the pound was levied on polls and taxable estates of the colony.

It was agreed to send two commissioners from Connecticut to meet the commissioners of the other colonies at New York on the fifteenth of November, in order to take measures for protecting the frontiers and to frustrate the designs of the French. Judge Ebenezer Silliman of Fairfield was appointed with Jonathan Trumbull, Esq., for Connecticut. Governor Fitch was also requested to meet with the commissioners of the other colonies in November.

Some doubt existing in the minds of the magistrates as to the expediency of keeping all the troops in camps at Crown Point, or to take further active preparations against Crown Point and Lake George during the winter, it was decided to send two gentlemen to Albany to investigate the condition of the army and their need of men and supplies. General Johnson had written that a portion of the men might with safety be disbanded, but the Governor of Massachusetts differed with him.†

All soldiers remaining in service under General Johnson were made exempt from taxes.

The taxable estates of Fairfield were valued at £50,119 1s.

Upon the arrival of the English fleet in the spring, only a dense fog prevented the Admirals from discovering the French fleet, which had anchored near their moorings. This gave the French an opportunity to send a part of its fleet up the St. Lawrence, while their other ships sailed through the straits of Bellisle into the river, and so reached Canada

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 401.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 416.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 420.



in safety. Meanwhile two of the French ships had been overtaken by the English Captains Howe and Andrews, and after an engagement of several hours surrendered and were made prizes to the English government. They had on board eight companies of troops, several officers and eight thousand pounds in money.

Before the end of June the expedition against Crown Point had reached Albany, and Generals Johnson and Lyman found themselves at the head of a force of six thousand men, and a large body of Indians under the Mohawk Sachem Hendrick. General Lyman with the main part of the army marched along the banks of the Hudson to the "carrying place," about fourteen miles south of the southern end of Lake George, while General Johnson remained at Albany in charge of the remaining troops, artillery, batteaux, and provisions to be sent forward when needed. It was deemed advisable by General Lyman and his officers to raise a strong fort at the carrying place, to provide for the men and stores to be sent to them, as well as to keep up communications with Albany, and also to provide a safe refuge for retreat. Six weeks passed while this necessary labor was effected.

Late in August General Johnson set out on a march across the country to Fort Edward on Lake George, situated at the south end of the lake. He encamped on a favorable covered position to make preparations to convey his cannon, batteaux and military stores across the lake. His Indian runners, however, soon gave him information that the French were advancing from Ticonderoga to Fort Edward, then garrisoned only by about five hundred troops from New Hampshire and New York, under the command of Colonel Blanchard. Runners were sent with all speed by General Johnson to Colonel Blanchard to call in his forces and place himself in readiness for an attack, as the enemy during the night were discovered to be within four miles of Fort Edward. A party of one thousand men under Colonel Williams of Massachusetts and Colonel Whiting of Connecticut, with the Mohawk Indians under their Sachem, were dispatched to overtake and defeat the enemy.

Baron Dieskau, who was in command of the French and Indian troops, had marched from Ticonderoga to make an attack upon Fort Edward, but upon learning that it was fortified with cannon, resolved to attack General Johnson's camp. On his march thither runners discovered the forces of Colonels Williams and Whiting about three miles from the main camp. He, therefore, with his troops and Indians lay in

ambush to await the advancing English. Upon their approach the enemy sprang from their hiding places and poured into them such a deadly fire that Colonel Williams and the Mohawk Sachem Hendrick, with many other officers and men, were instantly killed. Colonel Whiting with difficulty rallied his panic-stricken forces and retired to his camp.

General Johnson sent about half a mile to the borders of the lake for his cannon, which reached him in time to render great assistance in defending him from the enemy. As the Canadians and Indians advanced, the defeat the provincial forces had sustained had so bewildered and disheartened them that their officers found it difficult to hold them in line, but, after the first firing began and they saw the execution their cannons were making, they took heart and rallied with great spirit. "The line became one continual roar & blaze." The Canadians and their Indian allies were so surprised and amazed by this unexpected attack that they retired behind the trees and rocks to continue their assault. Baron Dieskau in vain endeavored to force an entrance into the camp, but the deadly fire of the provincials made it impossible. As the fire of his forces began to be less active the provincials leaped from their breastworks and so furiously attacked the enemy that they were soon entirely routed. Out of a force of two thousand Baron Dieskau and about seven hundred of his men were killed and three hundred made prisoners.

General Johnson and Major Nichols of the provincials were wounded. Colonel Williams, Major Ashley and six captains were killed and about two hundred soldiers.

On the following day Captain McGinnes marched to the relief of the camp with a hundred and twenty New Hampshire men. On his way he came unexpectedly upon three or four hundred of the enemy sitting by a pond near the spot where Colonel Williams had been defeated; and although his force was so much smaller than the enemy he made such a vigorous attack upon them that they were entirely routed and fled, leaving much of their packs and stores. Captain McGinnes was severely wounded, from the effects of which he died a few days later in the camp.

Meanwhile the expedition against Nova Scotia under the command of Colonel Mockton proved successful, he having taken three forts and secured many provisions, cannon, ammunition and stores. Colonel Mockton disarmed about fifteen hundred prisoners, "great numbers of whom were sent to New England."

General Braddock, who had been placed in command of about two

thousand two hundred men, had received strict orders in England to proceed through the country with caution, and to be on the alert against ambuscades. Colonel Washington, seeing his total lack of this necessary precaution, warned and urged him to send out scouts, and to be more on his guard; but he seems to have been possessed with such a strong sense of self-sufficiency and haughty obstinacy as to lose sight of such necessary wisdom. On the 8th of July he found himself within fourteen miles of Fort Du Quesne, but having neglected all advice and precautions, the next day he fell into an ambuscade, when a deadly fire was poured from the front and into his left flank which, with the yells of the Indians, threw his advance guard into such a panic that they fled back to the main body, when confusion and dismay wholly demoralized the entire force. In vain General Braddock with his officers endeavored to rally his forces. Five horses were shot under him; and at last he was shot through his right arm and lungs. As he fell, his army fled in the wildest confusion. He was carried from the field by two of his faithful officers and died four days after. All of his artillery, ammunition, baggage and his letters of instructions fell into the hands of the French. With cautious scouting, General Braddock might have saved his army, but his self-sufficiency and stupid egotism caused him to sacrifice some of his bravest officers and men, as the whole attacking force of the enemy did not exceed five hundred.

The Virginia militia led by Colonel Washington stood firm and unbroken. They advanced against the enemy, and covering their retreating companions, saved the main army from utter destruction; but a number of officers and between seven and eight hundred men fell in this engagement.

The remaining forces joined the rear division, and the entire army continued their retreat until they reached Fort Cumberland. Soon after Colonel Dunbar, who succeeded in command, leaving the sick and wounded in the fort, marched away with fourteen hundred men to Pennsylvania. Thus the frontier settlements of Virginia and Pennsylvania were left to suffer from frequent attacks from the French and Indians.

The news of this defeat seriously affected a force of two thousand men under Governor Shirley, which had been sent against Niagara. Many of his troops and boatmen deserted and made their way back home. He had found it almost impossible to transport his artillery, ammunition and stores from Albany to Oswego, and now when deprived of his desert-

ing men, and finding it impossible to supply his army with provisions after erecting Fort Ontario, near the old fort which commanded the entrance of Lake Niagara and Fort Cayuga, a short distance west of the latter, he returned to Albany in October, leaving Colonel Mercer with seven hundred men to garrison the forts for the winter.

These experiences led the provinces of Virginia, Pennsylvania and Maryland to realize the great necessity of a more vigorous effort than they had made to protect their frontiers, by erecting forts to guard the settlements. Pennsylvania had not favored the expeditions of this year. Maryland, being less exposed, had not suffered as much as the frontier inhabitants of Virginia and Pennsylvania.

"The bravery and zeal of the New England forces so pleased the king that he recommended the House of Commons to take into consideration and reward the faithful services of the people of New England and some other parts of America. On this recommendation Parliament voted them the sum of one hundred and fifty thousand pounds." \*

The taxable estates of Fairfield were valued in 1700 at £5,110 1s. 2½d.

Amid the losses sustained in this expedition, Fairfield bore her share of the large number of troops sent by Connecticut, and in many of her homes mourners wept by their firesides during the winter, while fears of further drains upon their youth and strength spread gloom and anxiety throughout the town. But the sturdy sons of this active and patriotic town stood ready at all times to prove themselves prepared for every emergency.

On the 23d of March, 1755, it was voted at a town meeting in Fairfield, that all the parsonage lands lying in the twenty rod highway should be sold, and the money divided in the same proportions among the several societies as the former sum arising from the sale of parsonage lands had been. David Burr, Samuel Sherwood and Captain Thomas Hill were appointed a committee to sell the parsonage lands.

On the 31st of March it was voted at a town meeting "that all school lands in the town should be sold for lawful money, and distributed among the societies in the town, viz.: The first & ancient society to have one-half of sd. money said land shall sell for; the other half to be divided into three equal parts; the West Parish to have one-third part, and the other third part to be divided between the parish of Reading & part of the

\* Trumbull's Hist. Conn., Vol. II, pp. 100-101. (Hathorn Hist. Conn., Vol. II, pp. 104-105.)



parish of Stratfield." This money was "to be used for the maintenance of schools & for no other purpose whatever."

1756. The General Assembly met again at Hartford, January 21st, when an oath of secrecy was administered to all the members in regard to their operations against the French. It was agreed that the operations conducted by the General Council of War, held in New York, December 12th and 13th, to be carried on against the French were "of a most salutary character, in laying a lasting foundation for the security of his Majesty's colonies & just territories in America." But as the colony of Connecticut during the past year had been at a much larger expense in issuing bills of credit than they could well afford to redeem, & "the inhabitants loaded with taxes laid out on the four next years" to redeem these bills of credit, and that the emission of a larger sum might greatly depreciate the value of the former, it was agreed to apply to Governor Shirley of Massachusetts to solicit the crown of Great Britain "that the pay of the troops, supply of arms, ammunition & carriage be undertaken at the expense of the crown."

Jonathan Trumbull and Phineas Lyman were appointed commissioners to confer with Governor Shirley for this purpose. They were also directed to purchase twenty barrels of powder, twenty thousand best flints and three tons of bar-lead in Boston, and ship them to Hartford at the risk of the colony, and to draw on the treasurer for pre-payment.\*

On account of the extraordinary hardships which the troops of Connecticut had undergone at Fort Edward, a gratuity of one month's wages was ordered to be paid to the chaplain, officers, and soldiers. Colonel Nathan Whiting was granted thirteen pounds for his extraordinary services.

An act was passed against foreigners trading with and corrupting the Indians in the colony. Retailers of liquor and captains of ships were placed under bonds of twenty pounds each to obey the excise laws of the colony.

About four hundred or more French prisoners having been sent into the colony, a committee was appointed to apportion and distribute them among the towns to be supported at the expense of the colony. Seventeen were sent to Fairfield.

The selectmen were directed "to receive, manage & support them,

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, pp. 447-449. Bullets were moulded in those days by goldsmiths, blacksmiths, and by private individuals.

as if they were inhabitants of the town." Such of the prisoners as were sick and could not be moved to Connecticut were ordered to be taken care of at the expense of the colony.\* A strict act was passed to punish any of them who should attempt to escape.

The Assembly met again February 12th, when the minutes were read of a Council of War held in New York, December 12th and 13th, at which time it was a unanimous opinion that an expedition should be sent early in the spring against Crown Point and the French encroachments on Lake Ontario; and that ten thousand men would be needed to go against Crown Point. A communication was read from Major-General Shirley, dated December 30th, in which he laid before the Assembly a letter from the Right Honorable Sir Thomas Robinson, dated November 11, 1755, of "his Majesty's gracious intention to recommend Parliament to grant assistance for a vigorous prosecution of the war, by defraying the expenses thereof." As some doubt existed about the colonies south of New York sending their full quota into the field, the northern governments were advised to increase their proportions.

The Assembly voted to join at once with the three other New England colonies and the Province of New York in raising ten thousand men for the expedition against Crown Point & to remove the French encroachments on and near the Iroquois Lake, and to march as soon as possible in the spring. It was also voted that Connecticut should raise two thousand five hundred men to act with the other neighboring colonies. A letter from the Right Honorable Sir Thomas Robinson was read, in response to the application for assistance from the crown, informing Governor Fitch and the assembly "that his majesty had ordered ten thousand stands of arms with the proper accoutrements & ammunition to be sent to Boston for the troops." Without delay Governor Fitch sent for "at least three thousand stands of arms with proper accoutrements & ammunition," for the use of the Connecticut forces. All the old and new tenor bills of credit were ordered to be called in, counted and burned by the colony treasurer, and their value paid according to the value of exchange in gold and silver, to pay the debt of the colony, as the Assembly should direct from time to time. An account of the expenses for the expedition against Crown Point was ordered to be kept by the Pay-table Committee and to be sent to Great Britain. The commissaries were ordered to purchase flour for twenty-five thousand men for

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, pp. 452, 453.

four months. All bread-stuffs, peas, beans, pork and beef were forbidden to be sold out of the colony until after the first day of May.\*

The Assembly met again, March 17th, at Hartford, when it was voted that the two thousand five hundred men to be sent for the reduction of Crown Point, "should be formed into four regiments of eight companies."

John Winslow, Esq., was commissioned commander-in-chief of the expedition by order of Governor Shirley of Massachusetts; Phineas Lyman major-general and second in command of all the forces, and also colonel of the first regiment; David Wooster colonel of the second regiment; John Pitkin colonel of the third; and Andrew Ward, Jr., colonel of the fourth regiment. The lieutenant colonels of each regiment were Eleazer Fitch of the first; William Whiting of the second; Nathan Payson of the third, and Stephen Lee of the fourth. Joseph Storrs was commissioned major of the first regiment; Jehosaphat Starr of the second; John Patterson of the third; and Benjamin Hinman of the fourth.

In the first regiment, under Major-General Lyman, and in the fifth company, under Captain Samuel Whiting, Samuel Hubbell was commissioned first lieutenant and Nathan Godfrey second lieutenant from Fairfield.†

A bounty of thirty-six shillings and a blanket was granted to each enlisting soldier when ready for marching orders, and four shillings a week before marching, and one shilling six pence a day while marching, "fifteen miles being accounted a day's travel."‡

By reason of the scarcity of money in the colony, and fears of its great depreciation if further bills of credit should be issued, it was decided by the Assembly to borrow thirteen thousand, three hundred and thirty-three pounds, six shillings and eight pence from Governor Shirley of Massachusetts, Commander-in-Chief of his Majesty's forces in America, in milled dollars at six shillings each, or in coined silver at six shillings and eight pence per ounce, or in coined gold equivalent, for which it was agreed to give a receipt to Governor Shirley for the value of six thousand, six hundred and sixty-six pounds, thirteen shillings and four pence. To redeem this borrowed money a tax of one penny half-penny was levied on all the polls and taxable estates in the colony, to be paid into the colony treasury in April, 1758. An additional tax of one penny half-penny was levied according to the taxable list of estates of October, 1757,

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, pp. 458, 460.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, pp. 471, 472.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, pp. 469-482.

to be collected and paid into the treasury by April 1, 1756, in silver money or gold equivalent. As the Assembly expected to be reimbursed with money from Great Britain, it was expected that all money should arrive before June 20th of 1755 and 1756, these laws would be made null and void. In case the arms, ammunition and blankets, which were expected from the crown, did not arrive in seasonable time, the commissaries of the colony were ordered to amply clothe and equip, impress, appraise their value and pay for them.

The colony having exhausted its store of cannon, mortar shells and powder for small arms and ordnance, a call was made upon Governor Shirley to seek through his brother, William Shirley, Commander-in-Chief of all his Majesty's Forces in North America, to urge the necessity and expediency of sending to Connecticut twenty-five hundred stands of arms and ammunition, out of the ten thousand stands of arms sent to the care of his excellency to furnish his majesty's subjects in America.†

Judge Ebenezer Silliman, Colonel Andrew Burr, Mr. David Rowland of Fairfield, with Samuel Fitch and Joseph Platt, both of Norwalk, were appointed a Committee of War, to assist and advise with Governor Fitch whenever he should call upon them.‡

Mr. Jonathan Trumbull was appointed to go to England as agent and attorney from the colony, and assist Mr. Partridge, the colony agent there, to plead the insupportable condition of the colony and to obtain money and advice towards furthering his majesty's cause in America.

The General Assembly met at Hartford, May 13th, when the assistants' oath was administered to Judge Ebenezer Silliman and Colonel Andrew Burr of Fairfield, and the deputy's oath to Captain Thomas Hill and Mr. Lathrop Lewis.

Ebenezer Silliman was made Judge of the Superior Court of the colony, and Colonel Andrew Burr Judge of the County and District Probate Court of Fairfield.

A stringent act was passed to prevent bribery and corruption in the election of members to the General Assembly, "the Assembly declaring that any such evil & illegally elected members were incapable of serving as a member of such Assembly."

Samuel Hill was commissioned ensign of the train-band of the parish of Greenfield, and Samuel Morehouse ensign of the west parish of Fair-

\* Col. Rec. Comm. Vol. 5, pp. 120-125.

† Col. Rec. Comm. Vol. 5, pp. 120-125.

‡ Col. Rec. Comm. Vol. 5, pp. 120-125.



field; James Smedley captain, Nathaniel Burr, Jr., lieutenant, and Eleazar Osborn ensign of the second train-band of Fairfield.\*

It appears that the width of the Long Lots belonging to the original settlers of Fairfield had been for many years a matter of dispute among their descendants. It was therefore decided by the Assembly that the town should appoint a committee to measure the length and width of the long lots and fix monuments of the original owners to each lot.†

The money borrowed from Governor Shirley was ordered to be lodged in the colony treasury. A tax of one penny on the pound was levied on all polls and taxable estates according to the October list, with the additions to be added to the four-penny tax. The colony treasurer was ordered forthwith to collect the five pence levied on the pound.

Mr. Thomas Hill of Fairfield was chosen one of a committee to borrow five thousand of the last issue of bills of credit at lawful interest, until the last day of January, to be loaned by them to private individuals.‡

Eight thousand pounds sterling, lately granted by his majesty to Connecticut, was ordered to be paid towards the debts of the colony, either in lawful money and bills of credit in due proportion, as most expedient for the safety of the public welfare.§

The colony had, in its great stress for money, even borrowed from private individuals, which they now proposed to return with lawful interest.

The Governor was requested to appoint a day and issue a proclamation for public fasting and prayer in all ecclesiastical societies of the colony.||

During the time of these warlike preparations, in which actual battles took place with the French and Indians, England did not declare war against France until the 18th of May; and not until June following did France declare war against England. Governor Shirley of Massachusetts, not having been successful in commanding the last year's expedition against the French, General Abercrombie was appointed to succeed him; and, as it was deemed advisable to have the entire forces of the colonies under the control of an English officer, the Earl of Loudoun was appointed Commander-in-Chief over the North American department of

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, pp. 504, 505.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 512.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 536.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 537.

|| Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 538.

operations, with almost unlimited power. He was afterwards Governor of Virginia and colonel of a royal regiment of colonial forces.

The General Council of War had arranged to make an attack on Niagara and Crown Point with the northern forces and a body of regulars, a detachment of which was to be sent up the Kennebec River to alarm Canada, and thus hold a check on the main design. The southern colonies were, with the assistance of several regiments of regulars, to besiege Fort Du Quesne on the Ohio. Niagara was considered to be one of the most important posts in North America, as it was on the south side of Lake Ontario, at the entrance of the Strait which joined it to Lake Erie, forming the only water communication between them, and "the only link which connected the colonies of Canada & Louisiana. It was the only way by which the Indians for several hundred miles from the northwest could pass with safety to the southern parts of America, or by which the Indians south of the Lake could communicate north of it." Besides this, the holders of this valuable strategic position naturally held command of the five nations—the Indians on the north and those along the banks of the Wabash and Mississippi, as well as the Indians on the western frontiers. By the success of this enterprise the English saw that they could not only control the Indians, but prove a serious check to the French on the Ohio and the Lakes.

Crown Point was the only passage into Canada, and secured the command of all Lake Champlain, through which the French and Indians passed to make their fierce and bloody attacks on the frontier towns of New England and New York. To secure this valuable entrance into Canada would end these attacks, and confine the French and their Indian allies within the bounds of Canada, and at the same time open a passage into the centre of Canada.

If General Shirley disappointed Great Britain and the colonies with his unfortunate control of the New England forces, General Abercrombie, with one of the largest and best equipped armies ever seen in America, also sorely disappointed their expectations through delay, inactivity and ill management. He allowed the fort at Oswego, for want of reinforcements, to endure a protracted siege by the French under General Montcalm. Colonel Mercer then in command was killed; and on the 14th of August the garrison, consisting of sixteen hundred men, capitulated and were taken prisoners. One hundred and twenty-one pieces of cannon, fourteen mortars, two sloops of war, two hundred boats built on the

lake, and all the stores and ammunition fell into the hands of the enemy, and were carried away to strengthen their other line of defences. General Bradstreet, while conveying food and provisions to Oswego, twice made vigorous and successful repulses upon surprise forces of the enemy. Seventy of his men were killed and wounded. About twice that number of the enemy were killed and taken prisoners, and among them their general. Upon learning from them of the siege of Oswego, he resolved to return to Albany to give information of the siege and designs of the enemy. General Webb, who with one regiment had been ordered to proceed to reinforce the forts at Ontario, was found on the 29th of July to be still at Albany. He did not advance until August 12th, when learning of the fall of Oswego, he leisurely returned to Albany.\*

Meanwhile General Winslow, with about seven thousand New England and New York troops, had reached the southern landing of Lake George. His troops were in high spirits, awaiting with impatience the word of command from General Abercrombie to advance up the lake to Crown Point. But General Abercrombie, with three thousand men under his command at Albany, delayed moving until after the middle of August, to the chagrin, indignation and humiliation of the colonial troops, and, although there were still three months of good weather, they were still further keenly disappointed by Governor Loudoun, who decided that the season was too far advanced to make any further attempt against the French until the following year. Fort Henry and Fort George were left strengthened and well garrisoned. The rest of the provincial troops returned home, and the regulars went into winter quarters at Albany. For want of a settled plan of action the southern colonies were not more successful than those of the north.

The colonial troops, however, had not been idle during all this annoying and dispiriting delay. Under the energy and skill of their own officers they had made roads through the wilderness, erected forts, built vessels and a large number of boats.

Governor Loudoun, as commander-in-chief of the American forces, visited many of the principal towns in the colonies and was received with every degree of respect and hospitality. He undoubtedly passed through Fairfield on his way to New Haven, where he was most cordially and hospitably entertained by President Clap. The officers and troops of the army did not share in these outward demonstrations of respect. In the

\* Trumbull's Hist. Conn., Vol. II, pp. 372-376.

Earl of Loudoun and General Abercrombie, the colonies had placed the greatest expectations and confidence. They had set out with the highest hopes of success, only to have all their plans dashed at the very time they expected to meet only with success, while ten or twelve thousand men had spent the summer in awaiting the action of two English commanders, who had proved wholly unfit for the duties with which they had been intrusted. It is not surprising that the troops and people should have concluded that their own officers were far better able to command them and to defend the country.

Meanwhile the French had triumphed everywhere and strengthened themselves. The winter was one of deeds of massacres and horrors in many of the frontier towns.

The General Assembly met at Hartford on the 8th of September to consider a letter received from the Earl of Loudoun, who had written that the enemy were approaching, and "that he considered it advisable that all the commissioners of the colonies should agree that he should take all the stock of provisions at Fort William Henry, Fort Edward and at Albany, the posts between those forts and Albany, for the use of the provincial forces at the same rate and allowance that his Majesty's forces received, and to give a receipt therefor, and to pay a just value for all such as he should receive." While the Assembly "thought it expedient to agree with his lordship's proposal," it was considered more advisable to fulfil their engagement made with the colony troops, "at the same rate & allowance they had received." That the matter might be duly transacted, Jabez Hamlin and Hezekiah Huntington were sent as a committee to Albany to fully settle the matter and "to confer with the Earl of Loudoun touching the reimbursement of the whole expense of the stores and provisions supplied by the Connecticut colony, & to charge & take a receipt for the same." \*

The Assembly having received notice that the money granted by Parliament "as a free gift & reward to the Colony of Connecticut for past services," sent by his Majesty's ship "Sterling Castle," had arrived, and the moneys conveyed to Messrs. Charles Apthorp & Son of New York, out of which Governor Shirley demanded that the money which Connecticut had borrowed from him should be paid. It was, therefore, ordered by the Assembly "that ten thousand pounds sterling" out of this money should be paid to Governor Shirley and a receipt taken for the

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 545.



same. It appears that over and above this sum there still remained for Connecticut, "fourteen thousand eight hundred & twenty-eight pounds, ten shillings & one penny." This sum was to be paid to Governor Fitch in gold; but the colony, unwilling to part with the silver sent over, refused to receive it all in gold, and desired Messrs. Apthorp & Son to send instead of the order already sent, "another including the silver & small money sent to this colony, & the remaining balance in gold." In all, there were "twenty-three chests of silver & two chests of gold sent to Connecticut." The full proportion sent to the colony after deducting necessary expenses, fees, etc., was "twenty-six thousand pounds," out of "one hundred & fifteen thousand pounds," sent to the colonies from Great Britain.\*

An act was passed that all prisoners should be sent to the county jails and a due allowance be made for their maintenance.

All grains and provisions were prohibited from being sent out of the colony under penalty of confiscation until the following June, and special care to be taken to prevent the French from receiving such provisions.

The Governor sent out a proclamation to the ecclesiastical societies of all the colonies, appointing the first Thursday in October a day of fasting and prayer.†

On the 11th of October the General Assembly met again at New Haven. A report having reached the Governor from the Earl of Loudoun of his lordship's expectation of the speedy approach of the enemy to attack the army at Lake George and vicinity, eight companies of one hundred men each were ordered to be sent without delay to the relief of the forces in Lake George and parts adjacent. Each man enlisting was granted a bounty of eighteen shillings.

The men raised for the Fourth Regiment were to be under the command of Captain Joseph Hoit of Stamford. Samuel Adams of Stratford was commissioned first lieutenant and Jedediah Hull of Fairfield second lieutenant.‡

Mr. Joseph Squire was made ensign of the first train-band of Fairfield.§

The taxable estates of Fairfield were valued at £50.761 15s. 4d.

An annoying letter was received and read from the Earl of Loudoun after the troops had been raised and made ready to march for Lake

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, pp. 546-548.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, pp. 556, 557.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 550.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 645.

George, that their services would not be required at that time, but that they should be held in readiness to march. The Assembly, however, did not think it advisable to maintain troops at such great expense, and ordered them to be disbanded. The colonels and captains of each company were ordered to take pains that every enlisted soldier and householder should be provided with arms and ammunition, and to hold all the soldiers in readiness, in whole or in part, to march upon the shortest notice.

The well kept parish records of Green's Farms contain the deaths of five young men of their inhabitants who fell in the expedition against Crown Point. Their names were Thomas Sherwood, Phineas Squire, Jethro Morehouse, David Hendricks and Abel Fountain.\*

While many interesting events were being accomplished for the promotion of well-governed institutions of learning in the colony, the parishes throughout Fairfield were in a most flourishing condition.

The people living at Northfield, now called Weston, had increased in numbers to that extent that they found themselves well able to support a minister of their own. Accordingly, at the October session of the General Assembly, they presented the following petition:

"Upon the memorial of Cornelius Ditman & other inhabitants of the northern part of the West Parish & north-western part of Greenfield parish in Fairfield, & a small part of the parish of Wilton in Norwalk bounds, praying to be made into an ecclesiastical society; representing their being at great distance from any place of public worship, & of their ability to uphold & maintain the ministry among themselves, etc.—as by the memorial on file may more fully appear:

The Assembly appointed Jonathan Maltbee of Stamford, John Read of Fairfield and Samuel Olmstead of Ridgefield a committee "to inquire into the motives of said petitioners, & at the call & cost of the memorialists, to repair to the said place, view the same, & the lands & parts adjacent, & having heard all parties concerned, to report their opinion of what they thought best should be done, to the Assembly in May next."

The Baptists at Stratfield fell into trouble at this time. From an old paper dated July 10, 1750, it appears that three of those who organized the society were excommunicated:

"Samuel Beardsley claimed that God had made him an *eye in Zion*; 'that, therefore, tried by the rule that Christ himself hath left us where he tells us, 'Every tree is known

\* Rev. J. B. Kelsey's Hist. Dis. at Green's Farms, Oct. 20th, 1890.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. X, p. 562.

by its fruits,' then if this gift was the gift of God, surely Life, Love, Joy & Peace would have been the consequences; but instead hereof, it hath been manifestly spiritual death, hatred, strife, & debate, contrary to the Gospel. To use which he declared it a false gift, according to the 25th Chapt. of Proverbs, 14th verse, 'Whoso boasteth himself of a false gift, is like the clouds & winds without rain.'"

Another serious charge was that those who were to be excommunicated as well as all unconverted persons should be denied the validity of marriage. At the same time it was asserted that the marriages of Christians were lawful and their children holy. Marriage was called the "*doctrine of devils*," which was denied by the examining committee, who claimed, according to St. Paul's Epistle to Timothy, and cited as sound doctrine, that "*marriage is honorable to all*." The guilty parties were then charged with "breaking their Covenant vows & admonished to repent of their errors, while Zion sits with tears on her cheeks & mourns over you; & with sorrow of heart is called to draw the sword of the spirit, & cut the cord of fellowship, & let the coat fall off rather than all perish together."

The Baptist church not having a settled minister relied only upon the visits of Mr. Morse, who did not reside at Stratfield, and as they had neither deacon or clerk, this paper of excommunication was signed by several leading members of the parish by way of giving it weight.

At a town meeting held in Fairfield May 20th, 1756, it was "agreed that the people called baptists have liberty to erect a house of public worship at Elbow-hill, so called; said house to extend twenty-six feet in width from the west side of the highway."

Beside forming new parishes within the town limits, several other matters of interest took place. On May 20th, at a town meeting, it was voted: "to open a highway from Silliman's bridge to Penfield's mill on Ash-creek." It was also voted "that all the Greenfield & Stratfield societies lying below Sport-hill, should work one day at the bridge proposed to be made over the Ash-House creek, a great creek, so called."\*

Dr. Gideon Wells of Fairfield was given liberty to produce inoculation against smallpox in the towns.

Every householder was required to keep a good ladder upon his house from the month of December, in case of fire, under a penalty of ten shillings.

By a vote passed July 23d, the court-house and jail bounds are given as follows: "That piece of land lying south-east of the Rev. Noah Hobart's parsonage, having been a part of his home-lot which he hath sold to Isaac Tucker is bounded on the south-east by the new jail & south-west by the court-house & the pound, & on the south-east by the land of Justin Hobart." Thus the jail at that date stood between the houses of Mr. Isaac Tucker and Mr. Justin Hobart, a nephew of the Rev. Noah Hobart.

\* Town Records.

1757. The General Assembly met again at Hartford, January 30th, to take into consideration and arrange by the order of the Earl of Loudoun for another expedition against Canada. Colonel Andrew Dury was present as an Assistant and Mr. Leathrop Lewis as a representative.

The Assembly appointed Governor Fitch and four commissioners to meet the Earl of Loudoun and commissioners from the other colonies at Boston during the month of January. They were given full power to agree upon the number of men to be raised by Connecticut "always observing such instructions as shall be given them by this Assembly, which instructions were not to send more than twelve hundred and fifty men; that the Assembly would appoint officers for the Connecticut troops, to ask his lordship for provisions and other necessities, pay for the forces to be raised for him, as well as for such provisions as he had already received; and also that he should request his Majesty to refund the costs and expenses of the past year.

The colony treasury being nearly exhausted, a tax of two pence on the pound was levied on all the polls and taxable estates in the colony, in the same manner as it was levied in 1755.

After the meeting of the governors and commissioners from the several colonies with Earl Loudoun at Boston, a special Assembly convened at Hartford, February 9th, when the Assembly voted to raise fourteen hundred men to act in his Majesty's service, under the Earl of Loudoun, in the next campaign. Handsome bounties were given to old and new volunteers, and the usual sum paid them while in service.\*

Samuel Hubbell was commissioned and served as captain, Josiah Walker as first lieutenant, Ezra Stephens second lieutenant, and Abel Prindle ensign of the fifth company of volunteers in the Fourth Regiment.†

The serious drain of raising and maintaining the forces of the previous year so impoverished the colony that the Assembly appointed the 20th of March for a collection of five or six thousand pounds, to be taken up in all the churches. They especially urged the wealthy inhabitants of the towns to contribute liberally towards maintaining English supremacy in America. The Assembly also voted that a public lottery should be drawn at Hartford June 1st to raise the sum of eight thousand pounds towards defraying the colony expenses. The sale of the lottery tickets

\* Col. Rec. Conn., V-4, N. 16, 100.

† Col. Rec. Conn., V-4, N. 101.



were to be paid in bills of the late emission, or in gold or silver on or before February 20, 1758.\*

An order was issued to collect all the arms and accoutrements belonging to his Majesty in the last campaign by appointed officers in each company. Colonel Andrew Burr was chosen to collect those held among the soldiers of Fairfield County. They were to take special care of them and to either sell or bring back those found at Albany, Fort Williams and Fort Edward, to the colony commissary appointed to receive them.

Jonathan Trumbull and John Ledyard, Esq., were appointed to adjust the sums owing the colony, with the Earl of Loudoun.

The General Assembly met at Hartford May 12th, when Judge Ebenezer Silliman and Colonel Andrew Burr were present as Assistants, and Captain Thomas Hill and Mr. Lothrop Lewis as deputies from Fairfield. Judge Ebenezer Silliman was chosen one of the Judges of the Superior Court of the colony, and Colonel Andrew Burr Judge of the County and Probate Court of Fairfield.

An act was passed requiring the chief military officers of each town to examine on the first Monday in May and October, the arms and ammunition of each company under their command and in their vicinity, and also those of the other inhabitants. The colonels and captains of each company of soldiers were commanded to see that the forces were fully prepared to march on the shortest notice.

A man-of-war was ordered to be provided for the protection of the

\* Under the head of "*The judgment of the ministers, met at Boston 11th of May, 1699, upon a case unto them concerning Lotteries,*" Cotton Mather thus wrote: "Great is the difference between a *lottery* set up by persons acting in a private *capacity*, & a *lottery* set up by the *government*, who have power to lay a *tax* upon the people, but choose to leave unto the more easie determination of a *lottery*, the person who shall pay the summ which the necessities of the public require. A *parliamentary lottery* takes only from the *voluntary* what the *government* might have demanded with a more *general imposition*; & only when the people are plunged into such distress, that a more *general imposition* would be grievous; & it employs for the welfare of the public, all that is thus raised by the lottery. Whereas a more *private lottery* is managed by those that have no antecedent claim unto anything of their neighbors, & is designed merely for private *advantages*."

"2d, It is a principle embraced among all well informed christians, that no calling is *lawful* but what is useful unto humane society, in some of its interests, except there be in a *calling*, some *tendency* to make an addition unto the enjoyments & interests of *humane society*, no christian may set it up. The oracles of heaven tells us, christians must *learn to possess honest trades for necessary uses*. To set up a *lottery* is to set up a *calling*. But though this or that particular man may be a *gainer*; yet it would puzzle any man to tell what necessary or convenient *uses* of humane society, where the *lottery* is opened are at all served. The *mind*, the *bodies*, the *riches*, the *defence*, or the regular *delights* of humane society have by this *lottery*, no addition made unto them."—Cotton Mather's *Magnalia*, Book V, Chapt. XVII.

colony sea-coast, fully armed and provided with officers, a dozen and seamen. The officers and seamen were to have one-half of all prizes taken, to be divided among them according to their rank.

The Assembly ordered that the inhabitants within the limits described by the memorial of Cornelius Tikeman and other inhabitants of the northern part of Green's Farms, Greenfield and Wilton, should be made and constituted a distinct ecclesiastical society and endowed with all the privileges and immunities of such societies in the colony under the name of Norfield.

The bounds of the parish were as follows, viz: "beginning at the military house, in the western line of Fairfield township passing north along John Armstrong's dwelling house, & from thence running easterly to the widow Sarah Fenton's dwelling house, including the same, & so on to Greenfield parish line, thence northward with said line to Aspetuck River; thence running northerly by said river to Gilbert's highway, so called, about half a mile west of the mile of common, thence northerly by said highway up to Reading south line, & thence westerly to said south line of Fairfield township; then southerly as to the perambulation line between the towns of Fairfield & Norwalk runs to the west branch of Sagatuck River, & then by said branch till it comes to said dividing line again. Provided, nevertheless that nothing herein contained shall be construed to exempt those persons included in this society & taken out of the society of Greenfield their proportionable part to perform the covenant said society of Greenfield lately made with Mr. Goodsell, their late pastor, to pay to him a certain sum of money for & in lieu of his maintenance." \*

A tax of three pence on the pound was levied on all the polls and ratable estates in the colony, and also a tax for all clearing ships out of the seaport, for the support of the colony man-of-war. A duty of six pence was levied on every pound of tea brought into the colony.<sup>‡</sup> It was also enacted that after July a duty of five pounds should be required for every hundred pounds worth of goods, wares and merchandise, except such as were exempt from taxation, under fine and confiscation, if neglected. An act was also passed taxing each peddler, hawker and petty chapman five pounds for a license and four shillings for a fee and reward for the year.

Captain John Read of Reading was commissioned lieutenant-colonel, and Robert Walker, Esq., major of the Fourth Regiment in the colony.<sup>‡</sup>

It has been seen that Connecticut nobly responded to Earl Loudoun's call for another year's campaign. Fourteen hundred men were quickly made ready to march at a moment's warning. Great, therefore, was the

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 35.

† *Ibid.* Vol. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 37.

‡ *Ibid.* Vol. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 38.

surprise and disappointment when it was learned that instead of marching against and reducing Crown Point Great Britain had made a change in her plans, and the reduction of Louisburg was to be undertaken without delay.

Meanwhile Great Britain had made great preparations to carry on the war in America. A large fleet of ships, boats and transports bearing sixty thousand troops sailed in May, from Cork, under the command of Admiral Holbourn and Commander Holmes, with General Hopson to command the land forces. Loud were the murmurings of disappointment and indignation among the colonists. The danger of sending the troops to Louisburg, instead of marching direct to Crown Point and reinforcing the forts on Lake George, gave them serious reason to fear that the enemy would entirely sweep away the frontier posts. Nor was it deemed safe to draw off any large body of troops from the colonies. The enemy having strengthened their fortifications were stronger than the previous year, and were flushed with pride, having been victorious against an army of twelve thousand men. However great the vexations of the magistrates and the officers and troops were at the turn of events, they were obliged to submit to the dictation of their recently acquired General-in-Chief. On the 9th of July the Earl of Loudoun sailed from New York for Halifax with a land force of six thousand men. There he formed a junction with the forces of General Hopson, who, with six thousand more men, swelled the army to twelve thousand, besides having a powerful fleet. Again mortification and disappointment awaited the colonial troops. Delay on the part of the Earl of Loudoun in making an early attack with his forces gave the French fleet an opportunity to reach Louisburg and to reinforce the garrison with nine thousand men. The news of this gain to Louisburg led the Earl of Loudoun and his chief officers to believe an attack would be unadvisable. The expedition was relinquished, and the ill-conducted campaign ended in the army returning to New York without having made one advantageous stroke. Mr. Trumbull remarks: "The British generals in America did more in two years by the pusillanimity, weakness and inconsistency of their councils to injure the colonies, than the French could have done with all their forces." Meanwhile the French took possession of the main forts, destroyed the fortifications south of Lake George and cut off communications with the five friendly Nations. Under General Montcalm Fort William Henry was reduced August 9th, with all the

sad barbaric cruelty of the Indians upon its retreating forces: not all the valuable batteaux and vessels which had been built within two years at great expense and labor, to convey the army up the lake to Crown Point, were destroyed. General Webb, in command of Fort Edward, although aware of the approach of the French, remained safely in his fortifications and sent a letter to Colonel Munroe, which was intercepted by Montcalm, advising him to resign to the enemy. His conduct during the previous year, with his utter neglect either to reinforce Colonel Munroe, although he had four thousand troops with him, or to alarm the country, gave him the well-earned reputation of having been a traitor. When all this terrible destruction was over, he made an attempt to alarm the country. Even Albany was now threatened. Large reinforcements were speedily sent from Connecticut, New York and the northern colonies. Connecticut sent on in a few days five thousand men, which, added to the fourteen hundred sent before, amounted to six thousand five hundred soldiers. Although General Webb was thus largely reinforced, he made no effectual effort for the defence of the frontiers. One expedition after another failed. Devastation, fire and the sword laid waste valuable settlements on the Mohawk river and valley and along the frontiers. And yet there were twenty thousand regular troops besides the provincials in the field. As the winter approached most of the provincial troops returned home, while the regulars went into winter quarters at Albany.

By this time the colonists fully realized the incapability of their English commanders, as they regarded the loss of the valuable forts taken by the French and all their boats wholly due to their inactivity, lack of enterprise and military skill. They turned with natural pride and confidence to their own military officers, and felt that they would surely have triumphed under their leadership. On all sides the conduct of the English commanders and officers was an unendurable disgrace.

The General Assembly of Connecticut met at New Haven, October 13th, and continued by several adjournments until November 3d, when it was voted: "Whereas in the late alarm & march of the militia, a great part, perhaps more than half thereof, proceeded either the whole or part of the way on horse-back & the residue marched on foot, & that many either wholly or in part subsisted at their own expense on their march, while others obtained food at public & private houses, taverns, blankets



& knapsacks & other necessities, they should be suitably remunerated according to their just rights & necessities."

At the request of the Earl of Loudoun that the Connecticut regiment should be dismissed, except two hundred and eighty men to remain with him during the winter as rangers on the frontier, it was voted to detach three companies of ninety-four men each from the troops at Fort Edward until their time expired in March.

A bounty of three pounds was ordered to be paid to each of the volunteer officers & men who should respond to this call, and thirty shillings to such men as were retained in the service. These were to be taken from Regiment No. 4, at Fort Edward, under Colonel Phineas Lyman and Lieutenant-Colonel Nathan Whiting. Jonathan Trumbull was appointed to provide all necessary clothing for them, such as "warm cloth & coating, blankets, good flannel shirts, yarn-hose & good shoes."\*

The new ship of war which had been built was named the "Tartar," and ordered to be made ready to cruise along the coast to watch the enemy, and to protect our trade in the West Indies.

A tax of one and a half-penny on the pound was levied on the polls and taxable estates of the colony.

As the continuance and formidable aspect of the war left no reason to expect any long exemption from a further demand for forces, it was agreed that they should hold the colony in readiness to join a Council of War with the other New York and New England colonies when necessary. Judge Ebenezer Silliman was chosen one of these gentlemen, as a commissioner, in behalf of the Connecticut Colony, when notified to attend such gathering.†

Lieutenant-Colonel John Read of Reading was promoted and commissioned colonel, Major Robert Walker lieutenant-colonel, and Captain James Smedley of Fairfield major of the Fourth Regiment of the colony. Mr. Ebenezer Banks was commissioned captain of the train-band of Greenfield, and Mr. Joseph Squire captain, Mr. Abraham Gold ensign, and Mr. Ichabod Wheeler lieutenant of the first train-band of Fairfield. Mr. Elias Bates was commissioned ensign of the train-band of Reading.‡

The taxes raised in the town of Fairfield since the breaking out of the wars with Spain and France were very heavy. In May, 1753, it was

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, pp. 59-62.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, pp. 59-64.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, pp. 67-69.

voted to raise sixpence on the pound, old tenor, on all polls and taxable estates to defray the expenses of the town. In December, 1754, four pence old tenor was levied, and December, 1755, three farthings on the pound was levied in bills of credit in lawful money. In the year 1754 Nathan Bulkley became the town clerk and collector of taxes. A penny on the pound was levied December 24, 1756.

At a town meeting held at Fairfield, November 14, 1757, the following vote was taken: That Major James Smedley, Captain Samuel Burr, Captain Simon Couch, Captain Thomas Nash, Lieutenant John Bradley, Joseph Bradley, Jr., Daniel Morris and Sergeant John Burr be a committee to provide fire-wood and other things necessary to be provided for the soldiers that are expected to be billeted within this town, at the charge of the town.\*

At the October session of the General Court, upon the memorial of John Cable and others living in the northern part of the parish of Greenfield representing that as they lived near the parish of Norfield and remote from the church at Greenfield, requesting that their own estates and those of others with a small strip of land be annexed to the parish of Norfield, the Court granted that a strip of land bounded as follows should be added to the parish of Norfield, viz.: "beginning at the south-east corner of the said society of Norfield by Aspetuck River, thence north-easterly by said river to the west side of the mile of common, thence following that course to Reading parish line, thence westerly by said Reading parish line, to the northern bounds of said society of Norfield, said tract being about one hundred & sixteen rods & fourteen feet wide from east to west, & bounds westerly on said parish of Norfield." At the same time provision was made that all persons living in the above tract of land should be taxed with the inhabitants of the Greenfield church, according to their contract with that parish for the maintenance of the Rev. John Goodsell.†

The Rev. Mr. Goodsell, who had been the pastor at Greenfield for a period of thirty-one years, and who now labored under the infirmities of age, was granted an assistant. The Rev. Mr. Burrit of New Fairfield was first invited to preach "as a probationer." Mr. Jonathan Elmer was also a candidate; but finally the congregation gave a unanimous vote, which consisted of seventy-seven voters, that the Rev. Seth Pomeroy of Northampton should be invited to preach at Greenfield as a probationer.

\* Fairfield Town Records.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 80.

A committee consisting of John Gilbert, Joseph Bradley and Daniel Sherwood were appointed to extend the invitation of the parish to Mr. Pomeroy, and on the 8th of December, 1757, Mr. Pomeroy was ordained pastor of the church at Greenfield.

Captain Moses Diamond, Captain Daniel Bradley, John Gilbert, Joseph Bradley, Jr., and Daniel Sherwood were appointed a committee of arrangements for the ordination.

The introductory prayer was made by the Rev. Samuel Sherwood, the sermon by the Rev. Noah Wells, the prayer of ordination by the Rev. Moses Dickinson, the charge to Mr. Pomeroy by the Rev. Noah Hobart, the right hand of fellowship by the Rev. Daniel Buckingham and the concluding prayer by the Rev. Jonathan Ingalls.\*

In the month of August, 1757, the Baptists at Stratfield met at the house of John Sherwood. The Rev. Joshua Morse and Rev. Daniel Whipple being present, received the testimony of the members of the Baptist church, by which they united in the desire that they regarded Mr. John Sherwood "was called of God to be a witness in the Gospel of Christ." But a short time elapsed when the Elders and Messengers from the Baptist churches at New London and Groton met with their brethren at Christ's Church in Stratfield, and "did by solemn prayer & fasting separate the aforesaid Bro. John Sherwood, & ordain him to the work whereunto God had called him, & did in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ commit unto him the watch & care of said church."

The Rev. John Sherwood was about forty-three years of age when he was ordained, and had occupied a prominent place in the Congregational Church at Stratfield, having been on the Committee of Prudentials, clerk of the society and a frequent messenger of the church to the meetings and associations in the county. He is described as having been "a man of large stature, of superior physical strength, & possessing no small degree of energy & firmness in carrying out the convictions of duty & right.†

The Rev. Noah Hobart, with the other fellows of Yale College, met at New Haven June 29, 1757, and after examining and approving the

\* Appendix—Genealogical.

† There is a tradition that his wife possessed remarkable gifts both in exhortation and prayer; and frequently the people expressed a desire that she might exercise her gift in place of a sermon from him. Soon after Mrs. Sherwood died her husband retired from the duties of a pastor in 1767. The house where he lived, where the church was organized, where he was ordained, and where he died is yet standing, occupied as a dwelling, and until quite recently was in the possession of one of his descendants.—History of Stratfield Baptist Church by Rev. A. N. Benedict.

disbursement receipts of money expended in building Connecticut Hall, they proceeded to thank the president "for his great care, labor & generosity" in the late improvements and prosperity of the college.

1758. By a special order of Governor Fitch, the General Assembly met at New Haven, March 8th, and continued by adjournment until the 24th of the month. Governor Fitch laid before the Assembly a letter dated December 30, 1757, from the Right Honorable William Pitt, his Majesty's principal secretary of state. This letter set forth the King's great disappointment over "the last inactive & unhappy campaign", that he had nothing more at heart than to repair the losses, "not doubting but that his faithful & brave subjects in America would cheerfully coöperate with & second to the utmost, the large expense & extraordinary succor supplied by his kingdom for their defence & preservation; & his Majesty judging that Connecticut, together with Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island, New York & New Jersey, who were more immediately obnoxious to the main irruptions of the enemy from Canada, & to each of which similar orders had been sent, were able to furnish 20,000 men to join a body of the King's forces for invading Canada, & carrying the war into the heart of the enemy's possessions. He further signified it was his Majesty's pleasure, that with all possible dispatch a large body of men should be raised in Connecticut, to begin a campaign, as soon as possible, & that no encouragement be wanting it had been recommended to Parliament to grant a suitable compensation as their active & strenuous efforts should justly appear to merit."

The General Assembly voted: "that notwithstanding the colony, when acting with the other northern colonies in their several Expeditions against Crown Point, had raised a much greater number of men than their just proportion, by means of which their men were greatly diminished & their strength much exhausted; yet that nothing may be wanting on the part of the colony to promote the design, it was proposed by his Majesty that five thousand men be raised as speedily as possible."

The soldiers were to be formed into four regiments, consisting of twelve companies each, for the invasion of Canada by the way of Crown Point. Each volunteer who should furnish himself with clothes, powder-horn and shot bag, was granted a bounty of four pounds, one month's pay in advance and a blanket and knapsack before marching. A table of money was arranged to pay each officer and private.\*

\* Col. Rec. Conn., XI, 92-94.



Phineas Lyman was commissioned major-general of the colony forces, colonel of the first regiment and captain of the first company; Nathan Whiting colonel of the second regiment; Israel Putnam major of the third regiment; John Read colonel of Fourth Regiment and captain of the second company; James Smedley lieutenant-colonel and captain of the second company; Reuben Ferris first lieutenant; John Burr, 3d, second lieutenant, and Ebenezer Couch ensign of the second company in the Fourth Regiment. Samuel Hubbell captain, John Benedict first lieutenant, Jedediah Hull second lieutenant, and Solomon Morehouse ensign of the seventh company. The Rev. Jonathan Ingersoll was commissioned chaplain for the Fourth Regiment.\*

It being found impossible to raise money otherwise than by an issue of bills of credit, it was enacted that thirty thousand pounds in bills of credit, equal to lawful money, should be stamped, bearing interest of five per cent., payable before May, 1762; to redeem which a tax of eight per cent. on the pound was levied on all the polls and ratable estates in the colony, on the October list of 1760, and paid in the treasury December 31, 1761. As soon as the money expected from England towards defraying the expenses of the war should be received it was to be applied towards discharging these bills of credit; and if a sufficient sum should be received before October, 1761, to pay off the borrowed money, this tax was to become null and void.

In order to pay the volunteers upon their return a tax of nine pence on the pound was levied on all polls and ratable estates in the colony of the list of October, 1757, and paid into the treasury on the 31st of December, 1758.

Judge Ebenezer Silliman, Jonathan Trumbull and William Wolcott, Esq., were appointed commissioners of the colony to meet with the commissioners of other New England colonies, and those of New York and New Jersey, at Hartford, on the 19th of April, to devise ways and means to further this expedition.

An embargo was laid upon all ships and vessels leaving the colony before May, and they were not to sail without the consent of the governors under forfeiture of one hundred pounds. It was also voted that in case the other northern colonies should fail in exerting themselves to raise their quota, so as to prevent the enemy from proceeding, the Governor and Council of War was given power to recall the troops of

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, pp. 95-99.

the colony. Jonathan Trumbull, Esq., and Colonel Phineas Lyman were appointed to inquire into the siege and surrender of Fort William Henry.

Thus far Great Britain had been most unfortunate in her war with France, both on the continent and in America. A change in her ministry became absolutely necessary. It was at this time that the celebrated William Pitt and his associates were established in the ministry, with power to appoint such able men as they believed would carry out the designs of the nation with success. Able men were selected of known ability and courage. Plans were adopted for a vigorous campaign against the French in America. The reduction of Louisburg was first to be undertaken. General Abercrombie was made commander-in-chief of the American forces.

The General Assembly met at Hartford, May 11th, when Judge Ebenezer Silliman and Colonel Andrew Burr were chosen Assistants, and Mr. David Rowland and Mr. William Burr deputies from Fairfield. Ebenezer Silliman was appointed one of the Judges of the Superior Court, and Colonel Andrew Burr Judge of the County and Probate Courts of Fairfield.

The full quota of five thousand men not having been raised, the chief officers of each train-band were authorized to impress every sixth man out of his company to fill the full number required. The soldiers thus detached were to be under the command of the colonels of the standing militia of the colony, who were authorized to place them under the control of the next officer in command of the campaigns going into the service.

Mr. Andrew Spalding was commissioned chaplain of station *Number Four*, and Gideon Wells of Fairfield surgeon of the Fourth Regiment.

It was deemed necessary to send Mr. Jared Ingersoll of New Haven to England to assist Mr. Partridge, who had for several years acted as agent and attorney for the colony of Connecticut, to represent and secure the best interests of the colony before the King and Parliament, and to solicit reimbursement for all the colony had spent in the last unfortunate campaign. Mr. Richard Partridge was authorized by legal papers to receive all moneys granted to the colony of Connecticut and send them to the Governor and Company, to be paid into the treasury.

David Rowland of Fairfield was appointed to accompany John Ledyard to Albany, to make application for the money due the colony "for billeting & carriages supplied to the troops."\*

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 129.

“ Considering the awful aspect of Divine Providence on the protestant nations, & particularly in our nation & land in the calamitous & threatening progress of a destructive war,” the governor was requested to issue a proclamation for a day of fasting and prayer throughout the colony, “ suitable to such important & interesting events & prospects.”\*

The treasurer of the colony was ordered to pay the town of Fairfield for quartering Colonel Frazer’s Highland Battalion the sum of four hundred and forty-nine pounds sixteen shillings and three pence. Milford, Stratford, Norwalk and Stamford also received from four to three hundred pounds each for quartering parts of this battalion.†

Mr. Ephraim Sanford was commissioned captain of the train-band of Reading.

The Assembly granted public lottery tickets in the town of Fairfield to raise one hundred pounds by way of remunerating Sarah Keeler of Ridgefield and Thomas Gibbs of Milford and his wife Hannah, for the loss by fire of a house belonging to them in Fairfield, in which Captain Saint Leger and his Majesty’s Forty-eighth Regiment had been quartered. Ebenezer Wakeman, David Burr and Gold Sellick Silliman were appointed to conduct this lottery.‡

Jonathan Trumbull was appointed to be paid for the clothing supplied to the rangers at Fort Edward and Station *Number Four* during the past winter.

A committee was appointed to examine the usual roads often traveled by the troops through the towns of Symsbury, New Hartford and Norfolk, to and through the northwestern part of Canaan towards Albany, “ & other towns adjacent, & seek a more direct & convenient way for the benefit of the troops & carriages.”

The Assistants or Justices of the Peace in each town were required with all convenient speed to quarter and billet recruiting officers; to supply each captain for his diet and small beer one shilling per day, for each horse six pence sterling, and for each foot soldier for diet and small beer four pence per day. As it was found necessary to quarter some of his Majesty’s regular troops during the winter, the Assistants and selectmen of each town were ordered to find rooms for them in houses, and to even impress rooms if they could not otherwise be found. They were to provide the officers and soldiers with candles, vinegar, salt, small beer

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 130.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 190.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 217.

and necessary utensils for dressing and eating their meat, at the rate of three pence per day. The enlisted soldiers for the expedition were ordered to be exempt from poll taxes.\*

In November John Whittier was granted liberty from the town "to erect a small dwelling house in Fairfeld on the southerly side of the county road, near where his bell foundry-shop is now standing."

While the colonies were making vigorous preparations for the war, England in February sent a powerful armament under Admiral Boscawen, with fourteen thousand troops on board, under the command of General Amherst and Brigadier-General Wolfe. They arrived in America, and on the 28th of May set sail from Halifax and appeared before Louisburg June 2d. The French made every possible resistance, but such was the skill and effectual tactics of Generals Amherst and Wolfe, that on the 26th of July Louisburg capitulated. St. John was also taken, and the whole coast from the St. Lawrence to Nova Scotia fell into the possession of Great Britain. General Forbes (commander of the southern forces), with about eight thousand from Philadelphia, was equally successful in his attack upon Fort Du Quesne, over which the English flag floated on the 24th of November. He renamed the fortress Fort Pitt, in honor of William Pitt.

General Abercrombie, with an army of fifteen thousand men, was not as successful in his attack upon Fort Ticonderoga July 5th. Lord Howe was killed July 6th, having fallen in contact with the advance guard of the enemy. The suddenness of the attack, the yells of the Indians and the fall of Lord Howe so disconcerted the troops, that although the provincials made a brave resistance, they retreated to Fort William Henry. General Bradstreet, in command of a force of provincials from New England and New York, captured Fort Frontenac August 27th, opened communication between Albany and Oswego and gave the English the command of Lake Ontario, thus shutting out Montreal and Quebec from the French fortifications on the west. Peace was established with the Indian tribes along the Ohio and the upper lakes, and a treaty was formed with them by which the frontiers of Virginia and Pennsylvania were secured.

The defeat of General Abercrombie was regarded with intense mortification by the New England and New York forces, as they outnumbered the enemy about four to one. They had never been pleased with

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, pp. 178, 215.



this general, and his mismanagement of his splendid army led them to hold him in bitter contempt, as he had proved himself wholly inefficient as a general. "They called him Mrs. Nabbycrombie, implying that petticoats would much better become him than breeches."

The other victories of this year, however, stimulated the colonies to renew their desire to defeat the enemy at every point, and to drive them from the country.

1759. By special order of Governor Fitch the General Assembly met at New Haven, February 7th. Judge Ebenezer Silliman and Colonel Andrew Burr were present as Assistants, and Mr. David Rowland and Mr. William Burr as deputies from Fairfield.

In consideration of the colony having paid large taxes during the war, and had lately paid two taxes, one towards discharging the expenses of the campaign and the other for discharging the bills of credit emitted in March, 1755, "& not being in a capacity to supply timely money for raising forces for the ensuing campaign," the Assembly voted that twenty thousand pounds in bills of credit equal to lawful money be printed, bearing five per cent. interest, payable at or before the first day of May, 1763; and for sinking and discharging the bills of credit a tax of five pence on the pound was levied on all the polls and ratable estates in the colony, to be paid into the Assembly in October, 1761, with the additions, which were to be paid into the colony treasury by December, 1762.

The colonels or chief officers of each regiment were ordered to demand of each captain over a company of soldiers a true and exact roll of his officers and soldiers, and all persons within the limits of their companies were required to exhibit their arms for inspection from sixteen years of age to seventy. They were also required to make a complete roll of all such as by law ought to be in the train-band, which rolls were to be attested by the town clerks and sent to the colonels of each regiment.\*

The Assembly met again at Hartford March 8th, when a letter from the Right Honorable William Pitt, dated December 9, 1758, was read, in which he set forth "his Majesty's ambition to follow up the victories of the past year, by making vigorous efforts to repair the disappointment at Ticonderoga, & all dangers which might threaten North America from irruptions of the French"; in fact, the entire subjugation of Canada and

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 214.

all the French possessions in America were to be undertaken by Great Britain. It was suggested that twenty thousand troops should be raised in the colonies to join a body of the King's troops for the invasion of Canada by way of Crown Point, and carrying the war into the heart of the enemies' possessions.

The Assembly voted, "to raise a larger body of men than it was able fully to complete upon a diligent trial & exertion," although many men on the last expedition had died and become disabled; while others were engaged in making batteaux and carriage service, by which strength and treasure were exhausted, so that they had been obliged to issue large bills of credit and to borrow money of the neighboring provinces, without the means of refunding them, unless the King granted a liberal supply to the colony; but placing the utmost confidence in his encouragement, it was voted to raise three thousand six hundred men as soon as possible, which was as many as the colony was able to allow. These soldiers were to be formed into four regiments of ten companies each. Every able-bodied man who had previously served in the army, and should again volunteer for the campaign, was granted a bounty of four pounds sterling. The colonels and chief officers were to impress men into the service if the companies were not filled before April.\*

Major-General Phineas Lyman was commissioned colonel of the first regiment, Nathan Whiting of the second, David Wooster of the third and Eleazer Fitch of the fourth. Israel Putnam, who had commanded the rangers, was made lieutenant-colonel of the Fourth Regiment, David Wooster was commissioned colonel, and James Smedley lieutenant-colonel of the third regiment and captain of the second company, with Captain Josiah Walker for his first lieutenant, Ebenezer Couch, Jr., second lieutenant, and Stephen Thorp ensign of the second company. The Rev. Benjamin Pomeroy of Hebron was made chaplain of the Fourth Regiment, and Gideon Allen of Fairfield surgeon of the Third Regiment. Lieutenant-Colonel Israel Putnam was made captain, with John Cotton for his first lieutenant, and John Spalding, Jr., ensign of the second company in the Fourth Regiment. Each surgeon was granted an assistant, called a surgeon's mate. Commissaries were appointed for each regiment of the colony, who were to be paid at Albany.†

Forty thousand pounds in bills of credit were ordered to be printed, bearing interest at five per cent., payable on or before March, 1764, to

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, pp. 221-223.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 221-229.

redeem which a tax of ten pence on the pound was levied on all polls and taxable estates in the colony, and with the additions to be paid into the treasury the last of December, 1763. In case timely and sufficient money reached America from the King before May, 1763, this tax was to be made null and void. For the immediate use of the soldiers, a further tax of seven pence on the pound was levied, to be paid before the last of December, 1763.\*

Mr. David Rowland was appointed one of a committee of four to examine the seven chests of money lately received from Great Britain and to return their lawful value to the Assembly. Mr. Jonathan Trumbull was appointed to assist them.†

The usual meeting of the General Assembly met at Hartford, May 10th. Judge Ebenezer Silliman and Colonel Andrew Burr were present as Assistants, and Mr. David Rowland and Mr. William Burr as deputies from Fairfield. Judge Ebenezer Silliman was appointed one of the Judges of the Superior Court of the colony. Colonel Andrew Burr was appointed Judge of the County and Probate Courts of the district of Fairfield.

Although the colony had agreed to raise thirty-six hundred men in March, and gave encouragement for raising four hundred more, and although many in the colony had enlisted with his Majesty's regular troops during the past winter as rangers, batteaux-men and team-drivers, and many were in the pay of neighboring colonies by offers of large sums as substitutes, besides the loss of men by death and disability, it was agreed to push and exert their utmost endeavors to raise one thousand more men, in addition to the four thousand already agreed upon. Every able-bodied man, as well as non-commissioned officers, who had previously served in the late campaigns, who should enlist in the present campaign was granted full pay, to be computed from December 1st until May 5th, and every able-bodied man who now enlisted and had not hitherto served in the army should receive a bounty of seven pounds, besides thirty-five shillings to purchase a necessary outfit, one month's pay in advance before marching, and be supplied with a good blanket and knapsack.‡

Nehemiah Burr of Fairfield was commissioned ensign of a company in the Third Regiment, under Captain Samuel Whiting of Stratford.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, pp. 235-237.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, pp. 237, 238.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 251.

"For the good order of the army," it was voted to place a brigade-major over the troops of the colony, and also an armorer for each regiment.\*

Ten thousand more pounds in bills of credit were ordered to be printed, bearing interest of five per cent., payable before May, 1763, to redeem which a tax of two pence one farthing on the pound was levied on all polls and taxable estates in the colony, with the additions to be paid into the treasury the last day of December, 1762.

David Rowland, Esq., was appointed one of a committee "to repair with convenient speed to Albany," and apply to General Amherst for a settlement of the former accounts for billeting his Majesty's troops, and to pay all bills and money borrowed on treasury notes with interest.†

Mr. Nathaniel Burr, Jr., was commissioned captain, Mr. Ebenezer Osborn lieutenant, and Mr. Talcott Buckley ensign of the second train-band of Fairfield.‡

A committee was appointed to receive and adjust the charges of the town of Fairfield and neighboring towns "for quartering his Majesty's 48th regiment of foot during the past winter, providing fire-wood, &c., and for a guard-house & hospital in each of said towns."§

It appears that his Majesty's regiment of foot made some trouble, and as their officers did not give information against them, Sir James Cockburn and William Edmondston, captains in the 48th Regiment, were brought before the Court of Fairfield and New Haven for transgressing the laws of Parliament in not delivering over to the civil authorities such soldiers as were complained of for misdemeanors upon proper and legal demand, and held reprehensible for their lack of respect to the civil authorities of the colony.||

Upon the opening of spring the soldiers of Connecticut and the other northern colonies under General Amherst were eager to march against the French. The colonies having in a measure been reimbursed by Parliament toward the previous year's expenses, now nobly responded to Sir William Pitt's design for the conquest of Canada, and placed twenty thousand men in the field fully armed and equipped. The main expedition against Quebec was placed under the command of General Wolfe, a young general of much gallantry and great promise, who had reached America

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 254.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 259.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 263.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 295.

|| Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 296.



with a large fleet under Admirals Saunders, Holmes and Durel, and an army of eight thousand regular troops. The expedition under General Amherst was to march by way of Ticonderoga against Montreal. While a third, under General Prideaux, was designed against Fort Niagara.

Although hampered in his march for want of boats, General Amherst passed Lake George early in July, and with his spirited colonial forces marched to Ticonderoga. The French, after a brave defence, on the 27th of July blew up their magazines and marched hastily to Crown Point. Remaining there but a short time, they evacuated that post and retired to the Isle of Aux Noix. On the first of August General Amherst sent his light rangers forward, and on the fourth he, with his army, took possession of that island. The conquest of these important posts gave great satisfaction to the army, and incited them to further efforts to clear the country of their enemy and their Indian allies on Lake Champlain, where the French had four large vessels well mounted with cannon and manned with the pickets of several regiments, under the command of Captain Le Bras and a number of French officers. The Isle of Aux Noix was occupied with a strong force of three thousand five hundred men, and well mounted artillery under the command of General de Bourlemaque, who regarded his position strong enough to command the lake and prevent the English army from passing into Canada. To capture the French vessels, General Amherst ordered a sloop to be built of sixteen guns and a radeau of eighty-four feet long to carry six twenty-four pounders. While these vessels were being built by Captain Loring, who had superintended the building of all the boats on Lake George, the army was employed in repairing and strengthening the fort at Ticonderoga and making the fort at Crown Point impregnable against the scalping and burning parties which had been so destructive to the settlements on the frontiers of the northern colonies. A detachment of troops were sent to attack and burn the Indian village of St. Francis, from which many Indian scalping parties had desolated the frontiers.

General Prideaux having been reinforced by Indians under Sir William Johnson, marched to the siege of Niagara, but was killed on the 20th of July by the bursting of a gun. He was succeeded by Sir William Johnson, who, with a force of seventeen hundred regulars and provincials, with their Indian allies, advancing upon the fort, so vigorously pressed the siege that the garrison surrendered on the 25th of July.

The women and children were sent by their request to Montreal, and the prisoners to New York and New England.

The reduction of Quebec now became the chief aim of the English, but one of the most hazardous of all these undertakings and the most difficult to be achieved. General Wolfe, with a well-disciplined army outnumbering that of the enemy under the command of Montcalm, was chosen to lead in this undertaking.

The latter, having the advantage of strong fortifications along the banks of St. Charles River, frustrated all the attacks of Wolfe. Nothing daunted, Wolfe planned to secretly pass up the river and scale the Heights of Abraham, upon which lies the upper town of Quebec. His men pulled themselves up the lofty, precipitous banks of the river, and clinging to projecting roots and stones gallantly made their way to the heights. Montcalm, finding the enemy in his rear, drew out all his forces and resolved to make a desperate fight for the city; but his undisciplined and half-famished troops, after a few rallies, fled and were pursued to the gates of the city. Both General Wolfe and General Montcalm fell mortally wounded on the field of battle; and although the French made a brave resistance, in less than a week, on the 18th of September, Quebec surrendered. Although Montreal was not taken until the next year, the war in North America was virtually ended.\*

Meanwhile General Amherst energetically prosecuted his plan for the destruction of the French vessels on Lake Champlain. On the 11th of October he embarked his whole army in batteaux under cover of the vessels Captain Loring had built for him. Assailed with tempestuous storms, three of the French ships were driven into a bay, two of which were sunk, while the other ran aground, and was seized by Captain Loring, repaired and added to his fleet. As the storm continued with violence, General Amherst decided to end the season's campaign and go into winter quarters. He, therefore, landed his army and spent the remainder of the season in building up the walls of the fort at Crown Point and erecting three smaller forts for its defence. He also opened roads between Ticonderoga and the colonies of Massachusetts and New Hampshire. He quartered his troops so as to protect the frontiers from the assaults of the enemy.

These victories filled the hearts of the colonists with great pride, and helped them to forget, in a measure, the mortification of their previous

\* Trumbull's Hist. Conn., Vol. II, pp. 396-416.

humiliating defeats. The French army in Canada were now totally surrounded and cut off from all communication with France. Their armies in Montreal, Trois Rivières and the Isle of Aux Noir were in this way cut off from recruits and provisions. Thus hemmed in, active measures were arranged for a spring campaign, by way of Lakes Ontario and Champlain, and through the St. Lawrence to Montreal.

On the 11th of October, the day in which General Amherst set out on Lake Champlain for the destruction of the French fleet, the General Assembly met at Hartford. Judge Ebenezer Silliman and Colonel Andrew Burr were present as Assistants, and David Rowland as deputy.

The first act passed was for a more liberal allowance than the British Parliament had granted for quartering his Majesty's regular troops in the colonies, and in case the officers and soldiers thus billeted should not pay their rates of allowance, all orders to do so were to be made null and void, and the persons upon whom they were quartered were to be paid by the Assembly in full, "for refusing to entertain any longer such officers or soldiers." For the protection of the inhabitants of the towns in which the privates might be quartered, "which at other times had been the occasion of notorious breaches of the peace, to the terror & disquiet of his Majesty's good subjects," an act was passed that soldiers should only carry arms when called into active duty.

Mr. Ezra Hawley was commissioned captain, Ichabod Lewis lieutenant, John Moss cornet, and Joseph Tomlinson quartermaster of the troop of horse in the Fourth Regiment of the colony.

Mr. Samuel Wakeman was commissioned lieutenant of a military company in Stratfield. Mr. Ichabod Wheeler was commissioned captain, Mr. Abraham Gold lieutenant, and Mr. Samuel Silliman ensign of the first military company in Fairfield. Samuel Hill was commissioned lieutenant and Stephen Hull ensign of the military company in Greenfield parish in the Fourth Regiment. Daniel Hull was commissioned captain and Stephen Mead lieutenant of the military company of the parish of Reading in the Fourth Regiment.\*

The taxable estates of Fairfield were valued this year at £53,358 7s. 6d. being larger than any other town in the colony except Norwich, not even Hartford or New Haven excepted.† This furnishes some idea of what Fairfield did in keeping up and maintaining its civil, ecclesiastical and military affairs in the colony.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 336-339.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 340.



It was ordered that the inhabitants of the town of Fairfield who had quartered his Majesty's regiment during the past winter, should be paid the sum of £491 15s. 6d. Milford, Norwalk, Stratford and Stamford were also reimbursed for quartering parts of the same regiment.

The officers and soldiers engaged in the last campaign were made exempt from poll taxes.

A committee was appointed to receive the money granted by Parliament for the last year's campaign.

It was about this period that a climax was reached between the Old Lights and the New Lights. It appears that several worthy students of divinity were denied ordination on account of their Calvinistic tendencies. Meetings of the ministers of the established church had been held from time to time in several parishes, protesting against the ordination of New Lights at the Divinity School as illegal and contrary to the regulations of the consociation of the established church. Strong and bitter were their controversies. During this year a council, composed of some of the ablest ministers and literary gentlemen of the colony, met at Wallingford, to receive the complaints and excommunication of the Rev. James Dana of Cambridge, who was to be ordained as pastor over the first church of that town. Mr. Dana refused to be examined by the consociation, as he, with his church as his ordaining council, had taken the matter into their own hands without consulting the Old Lights or Old Divinity School. This was a bold step on the part of the New Divinity School. The consociations of Hartford and New Haven were called in to unite with that of Wallingford in council. Mr. Dana and his church were, upon deliberation, pronounced "guilty of scandalous contempt." Finding it impossible to prevent his ordination, his followers separated themselves from the first Society, and were made a distinct society by the consociation.

The Rev. Noah Hobart took an active part in what was then called the famous Wallingford Controversy, and he set forth in eloquent language necessity of council in churches, and that offending churches should submit to examination, or be removed from all Christian communion with other churches.

A general association met at the house of the Rev. Ebenezer White in Danbury, June 19, 1759, and expressed their approval of the constitution, as they interpreted it, in the following resolutions:

"Resolved by this association that as the consociation of churches is one great thing that the composers of the platform have in view, as they expressly declare that what affects



all ought to be managed by all; so the ecclesiastical constitution of this colony knows of no other council whatever, but a council of the consociated churches of the districts, or in some cases a consociation of a particular district, united with a neighboring consociation, called in according to the direction of the constitution."

"Resolved, That it is most expedient for preventing the introduction of unsound & disqualified men into the ministry, & entirely agreeable to our ecclesiastical constitution, that the council for the ordination of ministers, to whose province it belongs, over which a pastor is to be ordained; & as this has for sundry years been practiced by several associations in this government, so we recommend it to universal practice, as the accepted platform for the government of the established churches."

### In October the General Assembly ordered:

"That a certain book, entitled, 'A Confession of Faith,' owned & consented to by the Elders & messengers of the Churches in this Colony of Connecticut, in New England, assembled by delegation at Saybrook, Sept. 9th, 1708: printed at New London *anno* Dom. 1710, be (inclusive of the preface thereof) in all the parts of it carefully & exactly reprinted; & that the same to the number of two thousand copies be bound with sheep-skin & distributed to the several towns in this colony; according to their public lists given in to this Assembly in its present session; & that Hezekiah Huntington, Esqr., Mr. David Gardener & William Williams, Esqr., or any two of them, be a committee to procure the same to be done accordingly, at the charge of this government."\*

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 333. Trumbull's Hist. Conn., Vol. II, Chapt. XXV.

## CHAPTER XIII

1760—1770

### SEVEN YEARS' WAR AND REVOLUTION

Quebec taken.—1760.—Political and military officers.—Bills of credit and taxes.—Boston fire collection in churches.—Renewed attack on French possessions.—Montreal taken.—Congratulatory to the King and to General Amherst.—Money sent from England.—Thanksgiving day throughout Connecticut.—War with Indians.—1761.—England calls for more troops.—Troops raised.—Officers.—Bills of credit and taxes.—King's proclamation.—Ecclesiastical laws sent to towns.—Money from England.—Bridge across Saugatuck river.—Pitiless war against Indians.—Peace declared.—England's drain upon American colonies.—Answers to England about trade, etc.—General Amherst calls for troops to protect forts.—Industry of troops.—Taxable estates.—Ecclesiastical controversies and taxes.—Northfield parish.—New meeting-house at Greenfield Hill, and call of Rev. Mr. Pomeroy.—1762.—England calls for more troops.—Troops raised.—Bills of credit and taxes.—Military officers.—Colonial forces take the place of English regulars.—More troops raised.—Civil and military officers.—Large bounty offered.—Embargo on food and grain.—Attack on West Indies.—War against Spain declared.—Attack on Havana.—Great mortality among troops.—General Amherst reinforced.—Officers from Fairfield.—Fall of Havana.—Fatality of the New England troops.—Money from England.—Abatement of taxes.—Officers commissioned.—1763.—Peace declared and concessions made.—Great rejoicing.—Men of Connecticut.—Fairfield's brave course.—Wave of great prosperity.—Affection and pride of the colonies for England.—Honored men of Fairfield.—Law for debtors.—Bills of credit issued to pay officers and soldiers.—Taxes levied.—Money granted by England used for billeting her soldiers, etc.—A day of thanksgiving appointed.—Col. Andrew Burr inspector of army accounts.—1764.—Fresh Indian conspiracy.—Civil and military officers.—More troops ordered out.—Bills of credit.—English taxation burdensome.—Check upon industrial prosperity.—Protest against stamp duties, etc.—Peace with western Indians.—Intellectual impetus.—Stamp Act.—Benjamin Franklin's discovery of electricity.—Church officers.—Protest against Stamp Act.—Jared Ingersoll's English appointment of Stamp Distributor.—Colony expenses laid before parliament.—1765.—Account of war and colony taxes sent to England, etc.—Civil and military officers.—Golden Hill Indians.—Congress of colonies held in New York.—Resolution.—Treatment of Stamp Act Commissioner.—Public protests.—Rise of Sons of Liberty.—Great excitement.—Refusal to use English importations.—Home industries used only.—Proceedings of Congress indorsed by General Assembly.—Petitions to king and parliament signed and sent to England.—Golden Hill Indians.—A public fast.—Stamp Act ignored.—1766.—Stamp Act repealed.—Ecclesiastical controversies at Fairfield.—Connecticut refuses Stamp Act Oath.—Governor Fitch and four others take the oath.—Their mistake.—Civil and military officers.—Repeal of Stamp Act.—Letter of gratitude to king and parliament.—Public day of thanksgiving.—Oath of allegiance to George III, rejecting pretensions of James III.—Taxes for schools.—Act to preserve shell-fish.—Church of England convention at Stratford.—Petition for bishop.—1767.—General Gage requested British troops to be quartered in Fairfield and towns adjacent.—Civil and military officers.—Increase of school money.—Reading petitions for a distinct township to

be named Redding.—King's troops quartered in the colony.—Mile-stones.—1768.—Civil and military officers.—Guardian of Golden Hill Indians.—British renewal of taxes.—Resistance, riots, and indignation.—American patriots.—Non-importation.—Rise of Sons and Daughters of Liberty.—Petition to the King and Colonial Secretary.—Letter to Massachusetts Assembly.—Death of David Rowland, Esq.—Fairfield jail and court-house burned by Frazer.—New court-house and jail on the Meeting-house Green.—Draining salt marsh at Green's Farms.—Church of England purchased Glebe land.—1769.—Separate troops of horse in Fourth Regiment.—Civil and military officers.—Effort to remove court-house and jail to Norwalk defeated.—New military exercises.—Death of Governor Pitkin.—Jonathan Trumbull elected governor.—Resolutions to sustain colonial rights and liberties.—Search for land titles.—Death of Col. John Burr.—Powder-house.

1760. THE victories gained during the past decade over the French in Canada had not fully conquered them. The English and colonial forces retired into winter quarters, feeling that the frozen condition of the lakes and rivers would hold the French in check; but this proved to be a mistake, as the latter's ambition to regain their lost possessions led them with great energy and courage to undertake the recovery of Quebec. General Murray, in command of the English forces, while a brave man, resorted to rash measures in an attempt to give open battle to the French forces, rather than risk the hardships of a siege. A severe battle was fought on the 28th of April at Sillery, where the English were defeated with the loss of most of their artillery, and at least one-third of their army. General Murray, however, resolved not to be defeated in the end, and marched with his forces to the relief of Quebec, where, with his soldiers, he greatly strengthened its fortifications, and mounted on the ramparts one hundred and thirty-two pieces of artillery. In vain the French endeavored to dislodge him. With his brave army, he awaited with impatience the arrival of reinforcements from the English fleet, upon which his safety depended. This succor came on the 22d of April, when the English fleet, under the command of Lord Colville, sailed up from Halifax, and, after many detentions from fogs and wind, anchored off Point Levi. The whole French fleet succumbed to the fire of the British guns, and was entirely destroyed. On the 16th of May, in the darkness and silence of the night, the French forces retreated, leaving "their whole camp, artillery, implements & provisions behind them." This signal victory gave great courage to the colonists that the whole of Canada would soon be conquered and the French driven from the country.\*

Meanwhile the General Assembly met at Hartford, on the 13th of

\* Trumbull's Hist. Conn., Vol. 2, pp. 416-422.

March, when Judge Ebenezer Silliman and Colonel Andrew Burr were present as Assistants, with Mr. David Rowland as deputy. A letter was read from the Right Honorable William Pitt, calling for further efforts from the colonies for the entire reduction of Canada. Without hesitation the Assembly, "firmly relying on the royal assurance for reimbursement, & zealous to promote to the utmost these important designs," resolved to raise and equip five thousand men with all possible dispatch, to co-operate with the King's forces. The troops to be raised were to be divided into four regiments, each regiment to consist of twelve companies. Each enlisting officer was granted five shillings for every able bodied man he should enlist; and every non-commissioned officer and soldier, who had been in any former campaign, was granted full pay from the 15th of December, 1759, until the 4th of April. To every volunteer, who should furnish his own clothing, etc., a bounty was granted of four pounds, and "a further bounty of thirty-five shillings for a lapelled coat for the service."

The sum of seventy thousand pounds in bills of credit was ordered to be struck off, bearing five per cent. interest and made payable March 1, 1765. A tax of six cents on the pound was levied on all polls and ratable estates in the colony, with the additions to be raised and paid into the colony treasury the last day of December, 1761. "And also that one other tax of nine pence on the pound be granted and levied on all polls and ratable estates in the colony, to be brought into the Assembly in October, 1763, with the additions, and paid into the colony treasury by the last day of December, 1764. In case Great Britain sent in a sufficient sum of money to redeem this issue of bills of credit before the taxes were collected, they were to be made null and void. To supply the immediate need of the treasury & to pay the officers & men for the present expedition, a further tax was levied of ten pence on all polls & ratable estates."

Phineas Lyman was commissioned major-general of the colony forces. James Smedley of Fairfield was commissioned lieutenant colonel, Captain Ebenezer Couch, Jr., of Green's Farms first lieutenant, Peter Fairchild of Stratfield second lieutenant, and Stephen Thorp of Fairfield ensign of the second company, under the command of Colonel David Wooster of the Third Regiment.\*

Inoculation for smallpox was made a punishable offence, unless done under a certificate given by a major part of the civil authorities of each

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 355.



town, and every person thus inoculated was required "to be assigned to such house or houses, & kept there until the nurses & tenders, after their cleansing, should deem it prudent for them to go out."

The Assembly met again at Hartford on the second Tuesday in May, when Judge Ebenezer Silliman was also present in his office as an assistant, and was appointed one of the Judges of the Superior Courts of the colony. Colonel Andrew Burr was made Judge of the County and Probate Court of Fairfield.

Mr. Daniel Wheeler was commissioned ensign of the train-band in the northern part of the parish of Greenfield, in the Fourth Regiment of the colony.\*

Great quantities of onions were raised in the colony at this time and sold in ropes or bunches of five pound weight by orders of the Assembly, well cured, dry and firmly bunched, under a penalty of six pence falling short of the weight.

Governor Fitch laid before the Assembly a letter from the Governor of Massachusetts, appealing for aid for the poor among the inhabitants of Boston, who had suffered severe loss by a great fire in that city on the 20th of March. It was recommended that each town raise a contribution in their several churches. Mr. David Rowland was appointed to receive the contributions for this purpose in the County of Fairfield.†

Since the taking of Fort William Henry some trouble had existed in filling the regiments on account of the large demand which had been made upon the colony. The Assembly, therefore, offered an additional bounty of forty shillings to those already granted, provided volunteer officers and men, who had already served in the army, should offer themselves to fill the ranks before June. An increase of four shillings a month was also added to the pay of non-commissioned officers, who had or should enlist for the expedition.‡

Upon the opening of spring General Amherst planned for the reduction of Montreal, where the main part of the French army was concentrated. Three routes were decided upon by which to reach Montreal. General Haviland was detached and sent by way of Lake George, Crown Point and Champlain. General Murray was ordered to march with as large a force as he could safely withdraw from Quebec, through the river St. Lawrence; while General Amherst himself was to lead his re-

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 376.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 385.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 387.

maining forces by way of Lake Ontario and down the St. Lawrence. A large number of small vessels and batteaux, had been built for conveying troops, artillery, baggage, etc., up the lake, while Captain Loring cruised on Lake Champlain with three armed vessels.

Early in June General Amherst moved with several regiments of troops from Albany to Schenectady, by way of the Mohawk and Oneida River to Oswego. The difficulty of conducting so large an army with its necessary equipment from Albany to Oswego was very great, but the General accomplished his march in less than three weeks. He now found himself at the head of an army of ten thousand regular and provincial troops, and one thousand Indians under General Johnson. Proceeding cautiously through the St. Lawrence, he destroyed the French vessels which he encountered, and attacked and reduced Isle Royal on the 25th of August. He repaired the fort at that point, and made every preparation to convey his troops and stores down the St. Lawrence, between which point and Montreal he had to encounter the dangerous falls of that river. With all his precautions, some "ninety men, nearly fifty batteaux, seventeen whale boats and one galley, some artillery, provisions and ammunition were lost." After a tedious voyage of two months and seventeen days from the time the army left Schenectady they encamped within six miles of Montreal.

Meanwhile General Haviland had taken possession of the Isle Noix while crossing the country to the St. Lawrence by the most direct route. General Murray landed on the island the same day that General Amherst took possession of it. General Haviland with his forces reached the other side of the river at a point opposite the city. Mr. Trumbull remarks: "Thus, through winding & devious routes, after many hardships through the enemy's country, had the three divisions simultaneously reached the place of rendezvous Sept. 6."

Seeing this formidable army surrounding Montreal, Governor Vaudreuille sent a letter of capitulation to General Amherst. By the end of a week, after many letters had passed between the two generals, the articles of capitulation were agreed upon, and on September 8th the whole country, embracing Quebec, Montreal and all the French possessions, surrendered to Great Britain. The troops were allowed the honors of war, although "to be treated as prisoners, & to be sent back to France on condition of their not serving during the war." They also were allowed to retain the worship of the Roman Catholic Church.

The magnificent manner in which this campaign was conducted, with the loss of so few men and with so little shedding of blood, reflects the highest praise upon the generals of each army.

A fleet which had been sent out by France with troops and military stores for the relief of Montreal, upon learning of the capitulation, attempted to form a settlement on the Bay, hoping to reach the main army by land. In this plan, however, they were discovered by Lord Byron, who, with three ships of the line, broke up their settlement and obliged the whole fleet to surrender.

The victory which had crowned the brave efforts of the colonies spread universal joy throughout the country. Gladness followed weary hours of anxiety and perplexity. Connecticut became then, as it always has remained, the banner state. Fairfield furnished a liberal share of men, arms, money and provisions. Her sons stood out among her sister colonies as the bravest of the brave.

The General Assembly met in New Haven on the second Tuesday in October, when it was agreed to send a letter of congratulation from the Governor and Company of the Colony to the King, on the glorious success of his arms, specially in North America. It was also resolved to address a letter to General Amherst, "congratulating him upon the happy success of his Majesty's arms under his care & direction, & giving him thanks for the beneficent care & wise conduct & protection of the troops under his command, & especially the provincial troops of this colony."

A special thanksgiving was appointed in all the churches of the colony on the 23d of October.

A committee was appointed to receive and sell seventeen thousand pounds sterling of the money granted by Great Britain in the service of 1759, to be paid into the treasury as soon as it should be received by the agents of the colony.

David Rowland of Fairfield was appointed, with Jonathan Trumbull and John Ledyard, to pay and discharge the treasury notes for the money borrowed by them, "from whom & on what account," out of the colony treasury.\*

The taxable estates of Fairfield were valued at £55,072 11s. 6d.

Mr. Benjamin Fairweather was commissioned ensign of the train-band of the parish of Stratfield in the Fourth Regiment.†

No sooner had the colonists hoped that war was at an end than the

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, pp. 437-439.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 467.

ill-usage of the Indians by the Governor of South Carolina infuriated the Cherokees, who had in vain endeavored to make honorable peace with them. They attacked Pontiac, a famous Ottawa chief, who, by his native skill and eloquence, had united all the north western tribes to conspire against the English in their newly invested posts, all of which, except Detroit, Fort Pitt and Fort Du Quesne, at a secret preconcerted plan, fell under the vengeance of Indian fury. Their garrisons were massacred and the frontier settlements were attacked and suffered greater devastation than ever before. Troops sent out to quell them were put to death in the most cruel manner.

1761. Governor Fitch held a special Assembly at New Haven, March 26th, and read before them a letter from the Right Honorable William Pitt, urging upon the colony the necessity of holding the enemy in check, and calling for two-thirds of the number of men raised during the previous year, to protect his Majesty's possessions in America. He represented that the British troops would be required to further "some great & important enterprise against the enemy." To this request, although the colony had been taxed far beyond its capacity in men and money, the Assembly agreed to raise twenty-three hundred men, to be enlisted and equipped with all possible dispatch, "to march to such places in North America as his Majesty's Commander-in-Chief should appoint, in the absence of his regular forces." The forces were to be formed into two regiments of twelve companies each, with their officers. The sum of five shillings was given to each enlisting officer, and a bounty of eleven pounds to every volunteer officer and private who furnished their own clothing and arms, and had previously served in the army; while a bounty of seven pounds was granted to every newly enlisted volunteer furnished in the same manner.\*

To further this expedition a sum of forty-five thousand pounds in bills of credit was ordered to be struck off and made payable on or before March 26, 1761, with five per cent. interest, to redeem which a tax of five pence was levied on all polls and taxable estates in the colony, to be paid into the treasury the last day of December, 1763. Also a tax of seven pence on the pound was ordered to be levied, according to the list of taxable estates in 1774; with the additions paid into the colony treasury the last day of December, 1774. Still another tax of four pence on the pound was levied to pay the soldiers to be immediately enlisted.†

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 480.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, pp. 482-484.



which tax was to become null and void in case timely money from Great Britain reached the colony to pay the troops.

Phineas Lyman was commissioned colonel of the First Regiment, Nathan Whiting colonel of the Second Regiment, James Smedley was made lieutenant-colonel of the Second Regiment and captain of the second company, with Noble Bennedict as first lieutenant, Benjamin Summers second lieutenant and David Rumsey ensign. The Rev. William Cooke was made chaplain of this regiment, and Gideon Wells of Fairfield surgeon.\*

The Assembly requested the Governor to cause to be read the King's proclamation for the encouragement of piety and virtue, and the suppression of vice and immorality, in all the ecclesiastical societies in the colony, on the Sabbath days next preceding the first Mondays in January and June.

"The books of Heads of Agreement & Articles of Discipline &c.; called the Saybrook Platform, which had been printed, were ordered to be packed in bundles, & sent to each town according to their portion in the list of taxes in 1760."

Thirty-four thousand pounds, including seventeen thousand pounds of the money which the colony agents in London had received and banked there for safe keeping, was ordered to be sold, and the Governor was empowered to draw proper bills of exchange on their agents for such purchased sums.†

The regular General Assembly met May 14th at Hartford. Colonel Andrew Burr and Judge Ebenezer Silliman were present as Assistants, and Mr. David Rowland and Mr. David Burr as deputies from Fairfield. Ebenezer Silliman was made one of the Judges of the Superior Court of the colony, and Colonel Andrew Burr Judge of the County and Probate District Courts of Fairfield.

Phineas Lyman was commissioned major-general of the Connecticut forces for the ensuing campaign. Dr. Gideon Wells was appointed director of the hospital stores, medicines and instruments for the army.‡

A committee was appointed to receive of the colony treasurer "all such bills of credit as were ordered to be sunk whether brought in by rate or exchange, & to burn them to ashes."

A memorial was presented to the Assembly by Nathan Adams and others of the town of Fairfield and Norwalk, praying that they might

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, pp. 484-487.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 489.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 503.

build a bridge across the Saugatuck River between the county and post road to New York.\*

Mr. David Rowland was appointed one of a committee to examine the sutler's accounts with the soldiers, and to protect them against overcharges.† He was also made one of another committee, with Jonathan Trumbull and William Woolcott, to receive the sterling money sold by order of the Assembly in 1759, which amounted to £22,000 sterling money with the receipts taken for the money paid into the colony treasury to deliver them into the hands of the secretary of the colony, that it might be known what amount of money was in the treasury.‡

The frightful and pitiless fury of Indian vengeance still continued and spread along the entire western and southern frontiers of the English settlements. General Amherst was urged to send immediate assistance to the southern colonies. He dispatched Colonel Montgomery without delay with a force of twelve hundred chosen men. Other companies from North and South Carolina and Virginia joined his forces, and although he attacked the Indians with great bravery and unsparing severity, he was unable to subdue them, and returned to Fort Prince George, leaving the southern settlements to the mercy of the infuriated Indians. Early in January another expedition was sent by General Amherst, under Colonel Grant, against the southern and western Indians; and so vigorously and savagely were they pursued by rifle, sword and fire, that over fourteen Indian settlements and fourteen hundred acres of corn were burned. Their women and children fled to the forests to starve and live on nuts and such food as they could find.

Even after this inhuman attack upon the Indians, although their chiefs had previously in vain attempted to make peace with the Virginians and the South Carolinians, did they find it an easy task to yield to honorable terms of peace. "What a scene of bloodshed and desolation, both with respect to them & to the colonies," says Dr. Trumbull, "was the consequence of the haughty, unjust and perfidious treatment of the Indians, by a few base & murderous people among ourselves."—"Pride, injustice & bloody measures, in the course of providence, commonly met a recompense in their own way." And now that peace was agreed upon "both parties wished that it might last as long as the rivers should run or the sun shine."

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 560.

† Col. Rec. Conn. Vol. XI, p. 562.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 563.

The northern colonies pursued a wiser and more pacific course with the Indians, whose friendship they had cultivated, and with whom they were now able to enter upon terms of friendly alliance. Trade was again opened with them. The border planters returned to their plantations. Wider fields were opened west of the Alleghanies and the lakes, by which the enterprising New Englanders found homes and advantageous trading posts and farms.\*

The mother country had not prospered in her war with France. The great powers of Europe favored France. Spain also now became the friend and ally of the latter country; in fact, Great Britain was under a war-cloud with all the European powers. She was greatly reduced in her resources, having incurred a debt of over a hundred million. In her misfortunes and surrounding dangers she turned to her American colonies for assistance, and resolved to employ them to her utmost advantage.

The General Assembly met at New Haven on the 8th of October. Judge Ebenezer Silliman, Colonel Andrew Burr and David Rowland, Esq., were appointed a committee to assist the Governor in reviewing and completing answers to the queries sent this year to the Governor and colony, by the Lords Commissioners of Trade and Plantations in Great Britain. The selectmen were ordered "to make a list of the inhabitants of each town, whites and blacks, and send them to the Governor on or before the first day of January next."†

A reply to the inquiries sent to the Governor and Company of Connecticut from the Lords Commissioners of Trade and Plantations, was dated Connecticut, September 7, 1762, a summary of which gives an account as follows:

"The situation & boundaries of the colony, the nature of its soil, climate, principal rivers, harbors, value of exports & imports; 114 small ships of 3527 tonnage, with 651 seamen; the principal employment of the colonists being in subduing & improving the land; & that nothing was done in the woolen or linen manufactory, than to supply the deficiencies of what our produce enables us to purchase from abroad, mostly made for laborers & servants: '*no work of any kind being carried on hurtful to Great Britain.*' The imports from Great Britain 'were almost all sorts useful in common life, valued at about £100,000 sterling; but little other trade with the nations; exports about £150,000. The natural products, timber, grain, cattle, horses & swine; plenty of iron ore; 141,000 whites, & about 4,590 blacks. The muster roll of militia is 20,264, '*who spend their own time, supply them-*

\* Trumbull's Hist. Conn., Vol. II, Chapt. XXI.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 573. These answers may be found in the Appendix. "No returns," reports Mr. Charles J. Hoadley, "of this census are to be found in our archives, and the following details are all that I have obtained from other sources."—Note, vol. XI, p. 574.

selves with arms, &c., & are no expense to the colony.' The principal seaport, New London: Indians about 931, many living in families & in small tribes, peacefully & generally orderly; no Indians bordering on the colony; revenues raised by tax on polls & personal estates; duties about £4000, one-eighth of which was appropriated to schools & the remainder to support the government, except in time of war. The constitution of the government, a General Court, its officers, other courts, laws, &c.; a military force of thirteen regiments, officers, &c."

This reply to the Lords of Trades and Plantations was signed by Governor Fitch and Deputy Governor William Pitkin. The following officers signed from Fairfield: Judge Ebenezer Silliman and Colonel Andrew Burr as Assistants of the General Assembly, Ebenezer Silliman one of the Chief Judges of the Supreme Court; Colonel Andrew Burr, David Rowland and John Read Judges of the Inferior Courts, and Thomas Hill Sheriff; military officers Colonel John Read, Lieutenant Colonel Robert Walker, and Major James Smedley of the Fourth Regiment.\*

General Amherst applied to the Assembly for more troops to be forwarded, " & kept in winter quarters for the protection of the forts & country in general." It was agreed to enlist two hundred and twenty-six able-bodied men, including two captains and four lieutenants of the troops in the service and pay of the colony. A bounty was offered of forty shillings and one month's pay in advance to each enlisting officer and soldier. General Amherst was advised to dismiss the other troops of the colony then in camp.

The forces raised in the colony this year employed their time in making new roads, strengthening the fortifications and posts which had been taken from the French, erecting other forts and, in fact, placing the country in every possible degree of strength against a further invasion from without.

The taxable estates of Fairfield were valued at £56,684 18s. 4d.

Asa Spalding of Fairfield was appointed surveyor of lands within the County of Fairfield.

While the Rev. Mr. Hobart still continued ably defending the cause of the established church of the colony by long controversies with the ministers of the New Light churches, the members of the Church of England at Fairfield made the following appeal to the General Assembly:

"On the memorial of Nathaniel Perry & Zaccheus Morehouse, &c., church wardens & vestrymen of Trinity Church, so called, within the first society in Fairfield, showing to this

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, pp. 628-633.



Assembly the great difficulties the professors of the Church of England belonging to said Church labour under, with respect to repairing their said church or meeting-house for divine worship, for want of power & authority to tax themselves for such purpose; praying for relief in the premises:"

It was resolved by the Assembly:

"That the church wardens & vestrymen of said church, or the major part of them, be & hereby are (on five days' notice) fully authorized & impowered to call the members & professors of the Church of England, belonging to said church, to meet at such time & place as they shall appoint, when & where being so met, they shall be & hereby are fully authorized & impowered by their major-vote to grant such rates & taxes to be levied & collected from such professors as aforesaid as shall be necessary for the purpose of repairing such meeting-house or church. And they are also hereby further authorized & impowered to choose a committee to manage the repairing of such house, & to appoint a collector to collect such rate or tax, who shall have the same power & authority to collect such rate or tax & be accountable therefor in the same manner as other collectors by law are; & any one Assistant or justice of the peace is hereby empowered & directed, on application to him made by such committee, to issue such warrant for collecting such rate as by law they are empowered & directed for collecting other rates & taxes."\*

The northwestern part of the town, afterwards called North Fairfield, had increased in population to such an extent that they at this time applied to the Assembly for parish privileges as follows:

"Upon the memorial of John Gilbert, &c., inhabitants of the northerly part of the parishes of Stratfield & Greenfield, & of the westerly part of the parish of North Stratford, in the county of Fairfield, praying this Assembly that they may be made a distinct ecclesiastical society & that their limits may be defined; & that a committee may be appointed to view their circumstances & situation & make report, &c."

It was resolved by the Assembly,

"That Samuel Olmstead Esqr. of Ridgefield, Samuel Fitch Esqr. of Norwalk & John Fowler Esqr. of Milford be & are hereby appointed a committee to view the circumstances of the memorialists, & make a report of their opinion to the General Assembly to be holden at Hartford in May next."†

At Greenfield the Rev. John Goodsell, now well stricken in years, saw the fruits of his past labors blessed in the goodly numbers which filled the old meeting-house. Under the pastorate of his assistant, the Rev. Mr. Pomeroy, the society continued to flourish; and although many of the congregation had become members of the Congregational churches at Norfield and North Fairfield, it became apparent that the old meeting-house was no longer large enough for the congregation. Many repairs, too, were needed, and the propriety of building a new church became a subject of serious consideration.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p.528.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 586.

On the 14th of February, 1760, a parish meeting was called, and after due deliberation they

"voted to build a new meeting-house, & to have it situal on the place where stand a monument of stones; & that Samuel Bradley, Jr. be a commissioner to apply to the County Court in behalf of the parish to affix & establish the described place for the meeting-house to stand on. Also voted that the dimensions of the new meeting-house shall be sixty feet in length, 42 feet in breadth, & have a good proportionate, well built steeple." In November following it was voted "that as many pews as can with convenience be laid out, on the ground floor of the new meeting-house, by joiners that understood the business, & the spots or places so laid out shall be fairly sold to the highest bidder, and the money raised to defray the expenses of the house. Also voted, that those who purchase the spots or places be obliged to build their pews by a limited time, & to build them uniform & alike."

The arrangement made about the pews in November, 1761, was as follows:

We the subscribers being appointed at the meeting on the 10th of November last to sell the spots or pews then voted to be laid out in our new meeting-house for pews to be erected on, have, according to the vote of the parish at their above said meeting relating to said pews, laid out & sold the above said spots or places in the manner following, namely, with the assistance of David Bradley, Jr.: Beginning at the east side of the south double door, have laid out the spots or places for pew No. 1, & so successively laid out & numbered all around the house till we come to the west side of said double door, they being No. 26; & have also this day sold the above spots or places, except pew No. 15, for the purposes aforesaid to the following persons, with the sum of each spot or place annexed to his name, which persons are obliged by the conditions of said vendue to have their pews well built & completed upon their own cost or charge by the first day of October next, or forfeit the same to the society.

The owners of these pews were as follows:

	£.	s.		£.	s.
Gershom Banks, pew No. 1.....	14	15	Gershom Bradley, No. 14.....	20	3
Samuel Bradley, No. 2.....	16	10	Reserved for Society, No. 15.....	—	—
Obediah Hull, No. 3.....	20	7	Nehemiah Banks, No. 16.....	24	0
Daniel Sherwood, No. 4.....	12	2	Ebenezer Banks, No. 17.....	20	10
Joseph Hill, No. 5.....	20	7	Joseph Bradley, Jr., No. 18.....	27	10
Cornelius Hull, No. 6.....	17	3	John Banks, No. 19.....	17	0
Daniel Sturges, No. 7.....	10	0	Samuel Whitney, No. 20.....	15	4
Moses Wakeman, No. 8.....	15	0	David Williams, No. 21.....	15	0
David Bradley, No. 9.....	24	0	Benjamin Sherwood, No. 22.....	17	14
Gershom Hubbell, No. 10.....	26	12	Hezekiah Bradley, No. 23.....	12	11
Gershom Bulkley, No. 11.....	23	15	Samuel Bradley, Jr., No. 24.....	23	1
Jonathan Diamond, No. 12.....	23	1	David Banks, No. 25.....	20	5
John Jennings (2), No. 13.....	20	7	Daniel Bradley, No. 26.....	12	5

\* From the Rev. Henry B. Smith's Discourse of the "One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of Greenfield Congregational Church, May 18, 1876.

During the following year (1762) this church was completed. It was a fair and elegant edifice for those times, and in point of architecture greatly superior to that of the neighboring churches. Its tall, well-proportioned spire became a beacon alike to travelers and to sailors. From its belfry the steeples of the churches at Fairfield, Bridgeport, Stratford, Milford, Long Island, New Canaan, Reading, Northfield, Green's Farms and Canaan could be seen; and such a variety of charming views of Long Island Sound and the surrounding country that it has been justly remarked by Mr. Barber: "No other spot in Connecticut can show such a commanding, extensive & beautiful prospect." Five light-houses were also seen from the belfry—viz., one on Norwalk Islands, Eaton's Neck, Black Rock, Stratford Point and New Pasture Light. On a clear day the East Rock near New Haven is distinctly seen.

A most interesting poem was written of this extensive view by the Rev. Dr. Dwight,\* entitled "Greenfield Hill."

1762. Again Governor Fitch was urged by Great Britain to raise all the forces possible for the protection of his Majesty's possessions in North America.

Twenty-three hundred men and officers were ordered to be raised and equipped forthwith, and formed into two regiments of twelve companies each.

A larger sum of money being required for this purpose than the treasury could afford, it was ordered that sixty-five thousand pounds in bills of credit should be raised, payable on or before March 4, 1767, to refund which a tax of six pence on the pound was levied on all the polls and ratable estates in the colony, according to the list to be brought into the Assembly in 1763, with the additions, and paid into the treasury by December, 1764. "One other tax of eight pence" on the pound was also levied on all the polls and ratable estates of 1765, with the addition to be paid into the treasury at the end of December, 1766.

Fearing that another issue of bills of credit might decrease the value of those already ordered to be emitted, a further tax of two pence three farthings on the pound was levied on the last October list, to be paid into the treasury by the last of December. It was also voted to appropriate all the remaining money in Great Britain, granted by Parliament in 1758, 1759 and 1760, not yet made use of, to be used as a sinking fund for the discharge of the bills of credit emitted in those years; and

\* Appendix—Genealogical, Dwight.

that, if the said moneys should be sufficient to redeem the bills, the new taxes should not be collected.

Phineas Lyman was commissioned major-general of the forces and colonel of the First Regiment; Israel Putnam lieutenant-colonel, and John Durgee major of the First Regiment.

Nathan Whiting was commissioned colonel of the Second Regiment; James Smedley lieutenant-colonel, and David Baldwin major of the Second Regiment. James Smedley was also made captain of the second company; Noble Benedict first lieutenant, Benjamin Summers second lieutenant, and David Rumsey ensign of the second company in the Second Regiment.\*

England at this time was obliged to draw off many of her regular troops from America to serve in her war with France, Spain and her island possessions. In consequence, General Amherst made a demand on Connecticut and the other colonies to fill up his regiments with provincials, promising to give a bounty of five pounds of New York money to each man not under eighteen and not over forty-five years of age, who should enlist for this service, to be clothed and enter into immediate pay during the war, or until his regiment should return from Europe. To this request the Assembly ordered that five hundred and seventy-five effective men should be raised. Besides the bounty offered by General Amherst, an additional bounty of five pounds was granted to each officer and man who should enlist volunteers at this time.†

The town records of Fairfield show yearly collections of taxes to defray the war expenses of the colony, according to their taxable polls and estates, ordered by the General Assembly.

The General Assembly met at Hartford, May 13th. Judge Ebenezer Silliman and Colonel Andrew Burr were present as Assistants, and Mr. David Rowland and Mr. David Burr as deputies from Fairfield. Ebenezer Silliman was appointed one of the Judges of the Superior Court of the colony, and Colonel Andrew Burr Judge of the County and District Probate Courts of Fairfield.

Mr. James Morgan was established captain, Mr. Daniel Lyon lieutenant, and Mr. Henry Lyon ensign in the east division of the parish of Reading in the Fourth Regiment; Mr. Nehemiah Sanford ensign of the train-band in the west division of Reading.

Nathaniel Seeley, Jr., was made lieutenant, and Mr. Abel Hall ensign

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, p. 618.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XI, pp. 613-623.



of the train-band in the north part of Stratfield and North Stratford in the Fourth Regiment.\*

That soldiers might be encouraged to enlist in the regiments which had been ordered to be raised on the 4th of March, an additional sum of forty shillings was added to the five pound bounty granted to each volunteer, in case the regiments should not be filled before the 15th of August.

Four hundred pounds were sent to General Lyman for the comfort of the troops under his command, "who are ordered to the southward."

To prevent the sale of food to the enemy, or carrying it secretly out of the colony by persons desiring to obtain large prices for it, so that the commissaries might find it difficult to supply the army, an embargo was placed upon barrels of pork, beef, wheat, Indian corn and rye until the 15th of July. All such stores found in vessels were ordered to be seized for the use of the King's troops.

Active preparations were made in England to strike a severe blow to the enemy, and thus bring about terms of peace. It was decided to attack and reduce the West India Islands. In this undertaking many of the provincial troops of North American colonies were engaged. Martinique was taken February 14th. England declared war against Spain soon after, and her possessions in the West Indies also became a plan of conquest. A powerful fleet, under Admiral Pocock, sailed from Portsmouth, England, March 4th, and formed a junction, May 27th, with a squadron from Martinique, under the command of Sir James Douglas. The land forces in these ships and transports amounted to ten thousand men, under the command of Lord Albemarle. These were reinforced by General Amherst with four thousand from New York and a considerable number of provincials, making in all an army of from fifteen to sixteen thousand officers and men. On the 5th of June the troops were landed, and the reduction of Havana begun. For two months a most energetic siege was made against this almost impregnable stronghold. During the month of July one half of the troops died from heat and fever. Five thousand soldiers and three thousand seamen were prostrated with sickness. The hurricane season was near at hand, and the hearts of the officers and men began to sink within them as sickness and death depleted their numbers. Just as they were almost on the verge of despair, the Northern troops reached them, which revived their hopes and gave renewed animation in carrying on the siege.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, p. 9.

Three ships had previously been sent north with sick troops, who, upon recovery, returned with the others, from New England, and made a valiant effort in assisting in the reduction of the citadel. On the 13th of August Havana surrendered, with all the shipping in the harbor and with one hundred and eighty miles of territory to the westward. Scarcely any of the New England troops or officers ever returned, as those who were not killed in battle fell victims to fever and disease.

The General Assembly met at New Haven on the 14th of October. Two hundred and twenty-six men, two captains and four lieutenants were ordered to be enlisted to serve under General Amherst, for the protection of the forts and country in general. A number of the troops belonging to the colony were stationed at Crown Point, and their officers were instructed to induce their own men to re-enlist for the winter, offering them a bounty of three pounds in addition and a month's pay in advance to that which they had already received. Lieutenant David Rumsey, and Dr. Ebenezer Jesup as surgeon from Green's Farms, were among those who served at this time under Colonel Nathan Whiting.\* Fourteen hundred pounds was ordered to be sent to Colonel Whiting for the return of such of his men that did not care to remain in the fort, and for the comfort of those who should remain during the winter.

It is a matter to call forth the pride of travellers from Connecticut, who now look upon the crumbling fortifications of Crown Point, Ticonderoga and Lake George, that those of her soldiers who left their homes and went forth to protect these forts were the men who also helped to erect and strengthen them. Our soldiers at this time were never idle. They continued to erect new posts, open up and improve new roads, build houses for the troops and to clear the passage way to the forts for troops and transportation purposes.

The Assembly had the satisfaction of learning from their agent in London "that he had received on the account of the colony for the services of 1760, the sum of £44,309 18s." The committee appointed to sell a portion of this grant had already disposed of thirty-five thousand pounds, leaving a balance of £9,309 18s. 6d., out of which the committee were now ordered to sell eight thousand pounds for its full value in silver, gold or bills of credit emitted in 1759. On account of the receipt of this money the five per cent. tax was abated to three pence on the pound.†

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, pp. 75 and 76.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, 78.

The taxable estates of Fairfield this year amounted to £57,158 7s. 9d.

Mr. Ichabod Lewis was established captain, Mr. John Moss lieutenant, Mr. Joseph Tomlinson cornet, and Mr. Samuel Blackman quartermaster of the troop of horse for the Fourth Regiment.

Mr. Samuel Wakelee was established captain and Mr. John Burr lieutenant of the train-band in Stratfield in the Fourth Regiment.

Mr. Phineas Chapman was established captain, Mr. Samuel Morehouse lieutenant, and Mr. Thomas Couch ensign of the train-band of the west parish of Fairfield in the Fourth Regiment.\*

1763. To the great joy of the inhabitants of the colony, they had the happiness to learn that preliminaries of a treaty of peace had been signed at Fontainebleau by the British and French ministers; which was afterwards confirmed and signed at Paris on the 10th of February. By this treaty all of North America east of the Mississippi River, which river should be left open to navigation free of duty, was ceded to Great Britain, except the island and city of New Orleans, which was to remain in possession of the French. All Louisiana on the left side of the great river, Florida, St. Augustine, the Bay of Pensacola and all the possessions of Spain in North America to the east and northeast of the Mississippi were ceded to England; while England restored all her conquests in the West Indies to Spain, as well as all right acquired by treaty or otherwise, which the King of Spain had over the said countries. The subjects of France and Spain in America were secured the rights of the Roman Catholic religion. In the fourth article of this treaty the King of France renounced all pretensions to Nova Scotia, with its dependencies, to the King of Great Britain, and also ceded to him in full right, "Canada, Cape Breton, & all the other islands & coasts in the River St. Lawrence."

Great, therefore, was the rejoicing among all the English colonies in America. For eight years every town in Connecticut had been taxed far beyond its strength or proportion in size and number of its inhabitants, besides paying large bounties. "The wealthy gentlemen advanced largely of their means to encourage volunteers to enlist. Many men had left their business & farms to enter the army. At the commencement of the war Connecticut raised one thousand men, and after the battle on Lake George, September 6, 1755, she dispatched two thousand of her militia; and at the close of the campaign she had about three thousand men in active service. Such was her zeal for the undertaking that in 1756 she

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, 85, 86, 87.



sent two thousand five hundred men, which was twice as many as General Amherst requested to be sent; but this was done fearing the southern colonies might not send their quotas. In 1757, Connecticut not only armed & equipped fourteen hundred men upon the request of the General-in-Chief, but upon learning of the attack upon Fort William Henry, she immediately sent five thousand more. For sometime she had from five to six thousand men in service. This readiness to respond so generously to his demands led General Amherst to call upon Connecticut for five thousand men, or all the troops she could spare for the next year's campaign. The cost of the war from 1755 to 1762 inclusively, after deducting the parliamentary grants, amounted to upwards of four thousand pounds."

Substitutes were obtained only by private individuals paying large sums. Officers of the militia and private persons in raising and equipping volunteers often received no compensation. Many comforts supplied by the mothers, wives and daughters amounted to a large sum, for loving care never counts on sums expended. Beside the regularly enlisted men, many others entered into the larger pay of some of the other colonies, and into the regular British regiments, and ships, and on privateers. Great was the loss sustained by the death of the flower of her young men, for none responded more freely or bravely than the youth of Connecticut. Greater still was their loss to their families, to the improvement of their business and farms, besides the demoralization in religion and education which always follows in the wake of a devastating war "for war is unfriendly to literature, destructive to domestic happiness, & injurious to piety & the social virtues. The country thirsted for peace."\*

In all this large supply of soldiers, in heavy taxes, in employment of substitutes and in donations of money and comforts for them, Fairfield bore a large share. Her magistrates in the General Assembly seemed never weary of the burden laid upon them, using their best talents and wisdom and encouraging every call for the prosecution of the wars of Great Britain to a successful issue. The Meeting house Green witnessed many drillings of her volunteers by her brave officers: while weeping mothers, wives and children saw their loved ones depart, many of them never to return. The town quartered many of the British soldiers, besides many prisoners taken from the French. Penfield's mill baked thou-

\* Trumbull's Hist. Conn., Vol. II, 451-457.



sands of barrels of bread to be sent from time to time to the soldiers. From Black Rock Harbor glided vessel after vessel, bearing her soldiers and laden with provisions at New London for Canada by the ocean, and up the Hudson to Albany, for the forts and posts to be stormed and captured for Great Britain. Never were more earnest prayers offered in her churches and homes than went up for the safety, success and return of her brave and loyal youth. For those who never returned, only the peace of the Holy Comforter brooded over and nestled in their homes. For the well, the sick and maimed a joyous welcome awaited their return.

The peace which now followed these years of war, with the pride of success over the great and valuable acquisitions which had been secured, brought a wave of great prosperity to all New England. Fighting, as the American soldier had, under the successful campaigns of a commander-in-chief from England, and with English soldiers, produced a feeling of kinship, pride and loyal affection towards the mother country more than ever before experienced. All classes entered with spirit upon the cultivation of their lands, and bore with pride the taxes laid upon them, until the public debt, contracted to carry on the war, was in a short period paid, and the colony was free of debt. Joy, peace and great prosperity prevailed, and the songs of industry and honest labor once more were heard throughout the land and in the homes of the sons and daughters of Fairfield.

The names of Colonel John Burr, Colonel Andrew Burr, Colonel John Read, Captain James Smedley, Judge Ebenezer Silliman and the Hon. David Rowland as leaders, and of many other brave men from Fairfield, during those years of devotion to the success of the colony in Great Britain's wars, will ever stand out to be honored and revered for the good they accomplished.

The General Court met at Hartford, May 12th. Judge Ebenezer Silliman and Colonel Andrew Burr were present as Assistants, and Mr. David Rowland and Mr. David Burr as deputies. Ebenezer Silliman was made one of the Judges of the Superior Court of the colony, and Colonel Andrew Burr Judge of the County Courts and of the District and Probate Court of Fairfield.

A law was enacted at this time which proved most merciful to insolvent debtors confined in jail, by which upon their exhibiting with their wives' estates, a true copy of their real and personal property, by which their creditors might be in part satisfied, they should then be discharged

from debt and set at liberty. Necessary wearing apparel and bedding of such debtors and of their wives and children were only exempt from seizure.\*

Ten thousand pounds in bills of credit were ordered to be issued at five per cent. interest, payable before May 1, 1765, towards paying the officers and soldiers in the last campaign and other expenses of the colony, to redeem which a tax of two pence on the pound was levied on all polls and ratable estates, to be paid into the treasury by the last day of December, 1764. A further tax of one penny on the pound was levied on the tax list of the previous October.

Money granted by parliament for 1761 was ordered to be sold, as soon as the colony agent in London notified a committee appointed at this time to receive it.

All persons upon whom had been billeted or quartered his Majesty's regular forces during the past winter were granted three pence a day for each non-commissioned officer and soldier.

The Governor was requested "to issue a proclamation, that Wednesday the 6th day of July should be observed as a day of Thanksgiving throughout the colony, for the return of peace, suitable to so important an event."†

Dr. Gideon Wells of Fairfield was appointed surveyor of the county.

Mr. Nathaniel Seeley was established captain, and Mr. Abel Hall lieutenant in the eastern part of North Fairfield, and part of North Stratford.‡

The General Assembly met at New Haven, October 13th. Colonel Andrew Burr was appointed to inspect the accounts of the pay rolls sent in, there having been a considerable variance between the returns of the number of soldiers raised by the colony in 1761 and those sent to England by General Amherst, and the authentic pay rolls of the soldiers exhibited to the officers of the pay roll at Hartford the same year. The committee of the pay table also had large accounts of supplies for the hospitals at Havana and Crown Point in the year 1762.

This was the last time Colonel Andrew Burr appeared in public life. His useful, patriotic and eventful life closed soon after.§

The taxable polls and estates of Fairfield this year were valued at £59,605 12s. 6d.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, p. 127.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, p. 139.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, p. 137.

§ See Appendix—Genealogical.

Soon after peace had been established, and Sir William Johnson had visited the Six Nations to confirm peace with them, it was discovered, through the intrigues of the French and the jealousy among the Indians on account of the English having unjustly settled beyond their treaty limits and in the Indian hunting grounds, that a conspiracy, headed by Pontiac, existed among all the northwestern tribes against the frontier forts and settlements of the English. At an appointed time nine of the western posts and settlements were attacked by the Indians and the garrisons and whites massacred. "More than a hundred traders were massacred, 20,000 persons in western Virginia were driven from their homes by fear of the scalping knife." The English were not favorites with the Indians as the French had been, for the former were more haughty and indifferent to the native pride and rights of the Indians, while the French always treated them with more politeness and confidence. In consequence, the border settlements were attacked with a fiercer fury than they had ever before experienced. Bodies of troops sent to the relief of the three belligerent forts of Pitt, Detroit and Niagara were cut to pieces. Two strong expeditions were sent against them, and after hard fighting it was not until the month of August that they were induced to make peace.

The Rev. John Goodsell, after a long and honored ministry at Greenfield Hill, died December 26, 1763, in the fifty-seventh year of his age. He was succeeded by the Rev. Seth Pomeroy.\*

1764. A special General Assembly was called by Governor Fitch to meet at New Haven, January 18th, when two letters were laid before the Assembly from the Right Honorable Earl of Halifax, one of his Majesty's secretaries of state, and General Gage, commander-in-chief of his Majesty's forces in America, requesting that five hundred men be raised to invade the Indian territories " & to punish them for their perfidious conduct." The Assembly objected to this request as "not being expedient at present; but referred the contents of the letter to a special adjournment of the court, to be held the second Tuesday in March." The Assembly met at Hartford, March 8th, and although the colony was in no way exposed by its situation, yet, for promoting his Majesty's interests and to assist in putting an end to the great mischief done by the savages, it was agreed that two hundred and sixty-five men and officers should be raised by enlistment with all possible dispatch, to march to such

\* Appendix—Genealogical.

places in North America as General Gage should judge proper. A bounty of five shillings was granted to each enlisting officer, and four pounds in bills of credit to each non-commissioned officer and man who should provide his own clothing. Each officer and soldier was provided with one month's pay in advance, besides a blanket and suitable knapsack for the service.

The treasury "being in no wise able to supply" the money needed to equip and pay the men, it was ordered that seven thousand pounds should be issued in new bills of credit, to redeem which a tax of one penny three farthings was levied on all taxable polls and estates in the colony, according to the list to be brought in 1766, and to be paid into the treasury by the last day of December, 1767.\* Dr. Ebenezer Jessup of the west parish of Fairfield served as surgeon in this battalion†

David Rowland, Esq., was appointed one of a committee to settle with the traders for hospital supplies for the use of the Connecticut troops in the last campaigns.

During the sitting of this Assembly a committee was appointed "to take into consideration what they should think expedient for the Assembly to do, in order to prevent the revival of the act of parliament laying a duty on foreign sugars & molasses." Jonathan Trumbull, Esq., one of the committee, was requested to ask Governor Fitch "to thank Richard Jackson, Esq., our Agent in London, for his efforts to prevent this tax." A committee was also appointed "to collect such reasons & arguments in behalf of the colony" that they should deem for her best interests against this tax.‡ This spirit towards the colonies had existed for some time, and was therefore not unexpected; but like many other impositions, the fathers of the colony resolved to use every persuasive argument before resorting to force.

The industries of the colony had been so prosperous that, having a greater supply of home goods than they needed, they had ventured to export iron, hides, leather and hats to the old world with handsome profits, until England, fearing such competition would affect her own industries, discouraged their importations. "In such numbers were hats manufactured, it was argued, that unless some restraint was put upon them, they would soon supply the whole world."

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, 233.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, 249. Hist. of Fairfield, I, p. 360.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, p. 240.



The law enacted at the spring Assembly for the relief of insolvent debtors was repealed.

The usual spring General Assembly met at Hartford on the second Thursday in May, when Judge Ebenezer Silliman was present as an Assistant, and Mr. David Rowland and Captain David Burr as deputies from Fairfield. Ebenezer Silliman, Esq., was chosen one of the Judges of the Superior Courts of the colony. David Rowland was made Judge of the County Courts and of the District Probate Court of Fairfield.

Israel Putnam, who had been one of the bravest and most valuable officers in the army for several years, was now commissioned lieutenant-colonel of the colony forces raised this year.\*

Mr. David Burr was made captain of the second train-band of Fairfield.

A letter was read from Mr. Jackson, the colony's agent in London, dated March 10, 1764, "relative to creating a revenue in America." The Assembly "Resolved, that Ebenezer Silliman, George Wyllys & Jared Ingersoll, Esqs.," be a committee to assist the Governor "to collect & set in the most advantageous light all such arguments & objections as may justly & reasonably be advanced against creating & collecting a revenue in America, more particularly this colony, and especially against effecting Stamp Duties, &c." Copies of their remonstrances were ordered to be printed, some of which were to be transmitted to their agent, Mr. Jackson, in London, and the residue kept and dispersed throughout the colony.†

The reinforcements sent out against the western Indians during the spring and summer were in most opportune time, and fought with such courage under Colonels Bouquet and Bradstreet that the Indians, being wholly routed at all points, agreed to terms of peace most advantageous to the English.

The war with the French and Indians was carried on with great loss of men and money. It has been estimated "that thirty thousand lives were sacrificed, & about sixteen millions of dollars, of which only five millions were repaid by Great Britain."‡ But the colonists had been taught in the severe school of military discipline which they had undergone for years, to now feel not only how strong they were, but well prepared for any future emergency.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, pp. 249, 250.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, 256.

‡ Weber's Outlines of Universal History, p. 354.

The advance of civilization had been carried into the far west, along the Delaware, Hudson and Ohio Rivers. West of the Alleghenies emigrants in search of fertile lands found new homes, and villages soon sprang up full of life and industry. The whole country took on new life, and trade and commerce flourished in all the principal towns and cities of the colonies. Printing presses and newspapers flourished, and the industries of raw silk and linen were carried on with success. Literature received a fresh impetus, " & the metaphysical writings of Jonathan Edwards slowly acquired a European reputation. The fame of Dr. Benjamin Franklin was carried by his brilliant discovery of electricity, to the bounds of the civilized world." Like the silence which heralds the dawn of a new era, men and women intuitively perceived that the youthful days of the country had passed, and they had reached the days of independent liberty of manhood and womanhood.

The wars in which England had been engaged for many years on the Continent, in the Orient, the islands of the sea and in North America had involved her in an enormous debt of seven hundred millions of dollars. Some of her prominent men in parliament cast a jealous and evil eye upon the prosperity of the American colonies, and argued that, as they were now reaping the benefit of their expenditures in America, they should help to pay off this debt. The great expense entailed upon the colonies by Great Britain was not a matter of consideration with them for a moment. Another administration had succeeded that of Sir William Pitt. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Lord Grenville, with the assistance of Lord Bute, now proposed a stamp act to replenish the depleted exchequer of Great Britain.

The General Assembly met at New Haven, October 11th. To prevent persons from voting in society or parish meetings to which they did not belong, each society was ordered to choose a treasurer, who should have the same power as a town treasurer; and that if any person not duly qualified to vote for choice of officers, granting rates or any affair he should be fined the sum of fifteen shillings.

The committee appointed in May, with Judge Ebenezer Silliman, to prepare an address to the Parliament of Great Britain, giving general and special reasons and objections to a bill proposing certain Stamp Duties in North America, now laid before the Assembly a firm and manly protest to be sent to parliament, which they exhibited in a pamphlet entitled, " Reasons why the British Colonies in America should not be charged with

internal taxes, &c." The Assembly having approved the reasons and arguments set forth in this pamphlet, ordered them to be sent to Mr. Jackson, the colony's agent in London, and by him to be laid before the parliament.\*

Mr. Jared Ingersoll, who had the previous year visited England in behalf of the Susquehanna Company, and who was at this time again on a voyage thither, was by letter appointed to assist Mr. Jackson, "by his good advice in matters which might concern the colony." Mr. Ingersoll returned home the next July with the appointment of Stamp Distributor for Connecticut.†

Mr. John Burr was established captain, Mr. Benjamin Fairweather lieutenant, and Mr. Abel Seeley ensign of the train-band in the society of Stratfield.‡

The taxable estates of Fairfield were valued at £58,814 5s. 2d.

An account of the sums emitted in paper money in bills of credit since January, 1749, was prepared, to be sent to the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, as well as the amount in sterling received from England from time to time, with the taxes levied each year upon the colony during the war to redeem the bills of credit.§

1765. The General Assembly met at Hartford, May 9th, when Judge Ebenezer Silliman was present as an Assistant, and Mr. David Rowland and Captain David Burr as deputies. Judge Silliman was appointed one of the Judges of the Superior Court, and David Rowland, Esq., Judge of the County Courts and District Probate Court of Fairfield.

Mr. David Coley was established lieutenant, and Mr. Nathan Morehouse ensign of the train-band of Norfield, in the town of Fairfield in the Fourth Regiment. Mr. Talcott Bulkley, lieutenant, Mr. Hezekiah Sturges ensign of the second train-band in the town of Fairfield, Mr. Henry Lyon lieutenant, and Mr. Gershom Morehouse ensign in the train-band of the east division of the parish of Reading, and Mr. Gideon Hurlburt ensign in the west society of Fairfield.¶

The land reserved by the Pequonnock Indians at Golden Hill in Stratfield had for some few years been a matter of dispute between their descendants and persons who had seized and occupied them as their own.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, p. 299.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, p. 300.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, p. 302.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, p. 339.

¶ Col. Rec. Conn., 12, 348, 350, 351, 353.

The Indians therefore petitioned the Assembly in 1763 for a restoration of their lands. "One Tom Sherman, his wife Eunice Sharon, & Sarah Sharon, Indian natives of Pequonnock, represented that they, together with many other Indians long since dead or dispersed into other places, were lawfully seized of about eighty acres of land at a place called Golden Hill in said Pequonnock; that they had many years enjoyed the same till some few years past, when said lands were all, except about six acres thereof, taken from them, & they thereof unjustly dissiezed by Gamaliel French & sundry others; & that in August, 1763, one Richard Hall had unjustly seized the remaining six acres, to their grievous wrong & injury. They therefore prayed the Assembly to grant them a restoration of their lands."

The Assembly appointed a committee to examine and to report as soon as convenient the best thing to be done for the relief of the Indians.\*

A special Assembly was convened at Hartford by Governor Fitch, September 19th, to take into consideration a proposition "from the several other governments on this continent, to send a committee to act with them, in presenting a petition to the Parliament of Great Britain, against their acts for levying duties & taxes on the colonies." Jonathan Trumbull, Esq., Eliphalet Dyer, William Samuel Johnson and David Rowland, or any two of them, were appointed commissioners to attend the proposed congress to be held in New York on the first Tuesday of October following. A letter of instructions was given the commissioners, "that they should take care to form no such junction with the other commissioners as will subject you to the major vote of the commissioners present." They were also instructed to make a report of the resolutions of the commissioners to the General Assembly for their approbation and acceptance.†

Mr. Jared Ingersoll did not find his office of Comptroller of the Port of New London from the Commissioners of his Majesty's Customs in the Plantations, as well as Stamp Distributor, one of the most pleasant. In his letters *relating to the Stamp Act*, Mr. Ingersoll says, "he suffered the indignity of being burned in effigy in many towns in the colony." In consequence of this and other divers tumultuous assemblies, "to the disturbance of the peace & terror of his Majesty's liege subjects," the Governor was requested to issue a proclamation, commanding "the officers of the colony to suppress all riots, tumults & unlawful assemblies, & that all his Majesty's liege subjects should aid & assist them in enforcing the laws against such gatherings."‡ This tax included stamped

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, p. 367.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, p. 410.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, p. 411.



papers, for all judicial proceedings and clearances at the custom-houses of bills of lading. The colonies were obliged to find quarters and all necessities for the sustenance of soldiers sent into and stationed within their borders for the enforcement of arrests and punishment for acts of mutiny.

It is, therefore, no wonder that meetings of indignation were held in many of the towns. Societies were formed throughout the country under the name of the *Sons of Liberty* for the purpose of suppressing *The Stamp Act*, and to compel its officers to resign their appointments, as they had resolved that no stamp should be sold in the colony, and that all stamped paper should be seized wherever it could be found. Companies of men in New York, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and New Jersey soon joined the *Sons of Liberty*, until the society became a body of immense strength.

Town meetings were held to protest against the Stamp Act, which was carried in procession and burned. Pamphlets and sheets of paper ridiculing the ministry and chief magistrates and ministers suspected of favoring it were circulated openly and secretly, with dark threats of revenge against oppression. Mr. Ingersoll was forced to resign his office of Stamp Distributor after he had made every effort to hold it.\* The distributors of Stamp Acts met with even more opposition in Massachusetts, and they, with all the other officers appointed to enforce it in the American colonies, were forced to resign their offices. James Otis of Boston eloquently set forth the rights of the colonists, while Jonathan Trumbull was the master spirit of charter rights in Connecticut. In Virginia Patrick Henry made an impassioned and eloquent address, in which he argued that the sole right to tax the colonies was vested in the General Assembly, in which he was warmly sustained by the people.

Agreements were entered into "not to purchase nor to import any more goods from England until the Stamp Act should be repealed." Associations were also formed "to use only American manufactured goods, & to increase the supply of wool by ceasing to eat lamb or mutton."

A congress of the committees of nine colonies met in New York, October 7th, when, in a remarkably firm yet forcible manner, they agreed to publish a declaration of the Rights and Grievances of the colonies, and to send an address to the King and memorials to the two

\* Hollister's Hist. Conn., Vol. II, pp. 133-140.

Houses of Parliament. They claimed all the rights and privileges of British subjects, and specially the right of not being taxed without their consent. This Congress continued in session a little more than a week, a leading feature of which was that it gave gentlemen attending it "the opportunity to become acquainted with each other, & to pledge their mutual support for the interests of the colonies."

The General Assembly met at New Haven, October 10th, and continued by several adjournments until after the report brought in by the Commissioners who attended the Congress held in New York. The proceedings of the Congress were endorsed by the Assembly, and they authorized Eliphalet Dyer, William Samuel Johnson and David Rowland, Esqs., as their commissioners, "to sign the petition for & in behalf of this colony."

Governor Fitch was requested "to forward the petitions to Great Britain (in order that they may be duly presented), together with a proper certificate of the appointment of said commissioners, & the doings of this Assembly."

A letter was sent to the colony agent, Richard Jackson, Esq., advising him to further the petitions "with his utmost influence, skill & ability; & to leave no possible means unattempted to secure success in so interesting a matter." It was stated to him, "that Connecticut was firmly persuaded that the power lately exercised by Parliament of imposing taxes on the colonies without their consent, & extending the jurisdiction of the court of admiralty beyond its ancient limits, is inconsistent with the principles & spirit of the British Constitution, & an infringement of the essential liberties of the colonists, & we can by no means be content that you should give up the matter of right, but must beg that you would in all proper occasions claim & firmly insist upon the exclusive rights of the colonies to tax themselves, & the privileges of trial by jury; & to maintain these principles in the most effectual manner possible, as what we can never recede from. The arguments from inconvenience & the fatal consequences, both to Great Britain & the Colonies, which must flow from this exercise of Parliamentary power, are obvious, & will no doubt be also fully insisted upon by you." He was instructed to avail himself of all arguments, hints and materials furnished him by the Governor, and in every other way "to place the rights of the colonies and the inconvenience of parliamentary taxation in the most striking point of light." He was also desired to correspond and unite with them, "for

obtaining a repeal of the last acts of Parliament, so grievous to the Colonies.”\*

Declarations and Resolves were voted and passed with but very few dissenting voices. These resolutions consisted of eleven in number and are of the highest credit to the fathers of Connecticut.†

The committee appointed to inquire into and settle the claims of the Pequonnock Indians, reported

“That they had found the Indian reservation at Golden Hill in the possession of Richard Hall, Aaron Hawley, Gamaliel French, Joseph Booth, Ezra Kirtland, the Rev. Robert Ross, Mary Burret, Elisha Burret, Daniel Morriss, John Burr, Jr., Samuel Porter, & Sarah Booth, the widow of Joseph Booth, deceased; & that they had satisfied & settled with the Indian claimants by giving them a certain piece or parcel of land called Nimrod Lot,‡ containing about twelve acres, with the spring at the point of Golden Hill aforesaid, bounded westerly by an highway, eastwardly by Pequonnock river, northerly by Jabez Sumner’s land, & southerly by a cove & common land, also about eight acres of woodland at Rock Hill, to be purchased for them by the petitioners, they also paying to them, the said Indians, thirty bushels of Indian corn, & three pounds worth of blankets.” The Assembly ratified this agreement, and ordered the petitioners to carry it out to the satisfaction of Thomas Sherman, his wife, and Eunice and Sarah Sharon, natives of Pequonnock. Thomas Hill, Esqr., the guardian of the Indians, was ordered to see this agreement settled before the last of January, as well as to receive from the petitioners the sum of £52 11s. 2d. in order to defray the charges of the Indians in prosecuting the matter.§

The taxable estates at Fairfield were valued at £61,325 4s. 9d.

The following order for a public fast was given:

Considering the present peculiar & perplexing situation of public affairs relating to this colony, & the dark aspects of Divine Providence with regard to our most dear & valuable rights & privileges; & of the difficulties & distresses we are or may be involved in, Governor Fitch is requested to issue a proclamation as soon as may be convenient by appointing a day of public Fasting & Prayer, to be attended in this colony, fervently to implore divine aid, direction & wisdom as the melancholy state of affairs require.”

The Assembly granted to David Rowland, Esq., the sum of forty-seven pounds nineteen shillings and nine pence, over and above what he had already received for his expenses and service in attending the late Congress in New York. The same allowance was granted to the other two delegates.

At the close of the year the Stamp Act was practically set aside, and the usual routine of business carried on. The Governor and Judges took no steps to enforce the Stamp Act. All Europe sympathized with the colonies. At the head of a large party in Great Britain against this un-

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, pp. 420-421.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, pp. 420-425.

‡ Nimrod, the name of a Pequonnock Sachem.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, p. 432.



just taxation was the great statesman and orator William Pitt, afterwards Earl of Chatham, who was a powerful advocate of the rights of the colonies. He was supported in his views by Lords Camden and Mansfield. These gentlemen, in vehement debate, set forth the tax bill as "absolutely illegal." Lord Camden declared "that taxation and representation are inseparably united. God hath joined them & no British parliament can put them asunder."

Dr. Benjamin Franklin, who had "undergone a memorable examination in July, 1765, before the House of Commons, declared that the Act could never be enforced."

1766. The Stamp Act was repealed March, 1766, to the great joy and relief of the colonies. At the same time a bill was passed, declaring the power and right of parliament to bind the Americans, "in all cases whatsoever," which was regarded as a pretext or connivance to save the honor of the government. Indemnity was demanded and readily paid by Massachusetts and New York, "for the officers of the crown who had suffered in the late riots."

The ecclesiastical controversies still continued at Fairfield, and the Rev. Mr. Beach of Reading, in 1765, as secretary of the S. P. G., wrote that he was engaged with the Independent Ministers "against Antinomianism & enthusiasm, which rage among the Independents," and that none of his people "were afflicted in any degree with Deism."

The clergy of the Church of England throughout the colony and country were under the protection of the British Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, and were generally supported by that society. They regarded the uprising against Great Britain at this time as seditious and disloyal. The Rev. Mr. Beach of Reading was a staunch advocate for loyalty to the King's decrees. On the 2d of April the Rev. Mr. Lamson thus wrote to this Society from Fairfield: "that anarchy & disloyalty prevailed throughout the country in general; & that the missionaries were urging their parishioners to be loyal to the mother country by submission & quiet deportment"; by which means they "had been exposed to the insults of the enemies of the Church & state, & threatened with having their houses pulled down over their heads"; on the 22d of April the Rev. Mr. Beach wrote, "that he had not been without fear of being abused by a lawless set of men, who style themselves the Sons of Liberty & who call us enemies to our country, Jacobites, &c."



The Rev. Mr. Buckingham of Green's Farms died in May of this year, after a ministry of over twenty-four years. He was succeeded by the Rev. Dr. Hezekiah Ripley, who was ordained pastor over the parish February 11, 1767.\*

The General Assembly met at Hartford on the second Thursday in May. The names of Governor Fitch and Judge Ebenezer Silliman no longer headed the list chosen this year as magistrates by the Assembly, for the following reasons: Governor Fitch, with others of his councillors, fearing that they would jeopardize the charter of the colony, thought it would be wiser, although they in every way disapproved of the Stamp Act, to take the oath required by Parliament. For this reason the Governor proposed that they should all take the Stamp Act oath. Colonel Jonathan Trumbull in indignant tones refused to even witness such a proceeding, and walked angrily out of the room followed by most of the Assistants, only four members of the council remaining, who administered the oath to the Governor. In consequence of this mistake of judgment on the part of Governor Fitch and those who administered the oath to him they were not re-elected the next year.† Governor Pitkin was elected in place of Governor Fitch. It would have been far wiser had they all awaited a reply to their letter of the May Assembly sent to the King and Parliament. The people were in no mood to trifle with the tyrannical course of Great Britain. "Right, Liberty & Freedom" were now their watchword. They had experienced enough of British generalship, unwise and cruel conduct to the Indians and ignorant and brutal methods of warfare with them, with the loss of thousands of valuable lives and large sums of money, to resort to any expediency. Besides, they had learned through the vicissitudes of war their own strength, and they now rose in that strength to resist tyranny of any kind whatsoever.

Judge Ebenezer Silliman appears to have been one of the four Judges who administered the Stamp Act oath to Governor Fitch, as from this date he was deprived of his office as an Assistant of the General Assembly, as well as that of one of the Judges of the Superior Court of the colony. His fellow-townsmen, believing that he had acted from conscientious

\* No record is found of the Rev. Mr. Buckingham's marriage or children.

† It appears that in March, 1760, a pamphlet was issued by Governor Fitch, giving "some reasons which influenced the Governor to take and the Councillors to administer the Oath required by the Act of Parliament, commonly called the Stamp Act oath. Humbly submitted to the consideration of the public"; "which did not have the effect of securing the re-election of himself or the four assistants by whom the oath was administered to him."—Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, p. 451.

motives, however mistaken they may have been, yearly elected him to represent Fairfield in the General Assembly. He had filled his public offices with great honor. The people of Fairfield were proud of him, and were resolved that the town should not be wholly deprived of his valuable services. Although his name for some years was presented for election as an Assistant, the Senate did not confirm his nomination.

Mr. Lothrop Lewis and Colonel John Read were present at this Assembly as deputies from Fairfield. Mr. David Rowland was made one of the Judges of the County Court of Fairfield and of the Probate Court of the district.

Mr. Henry Lyon was appointed captain, and Mr. David Hill lieutenant of the train-band in the east division of the parish of Reading, in the Fourth Regiment.\*

The Assembly requested Governor Pitkin to "prepare an humble, dutiful & loyal address to the King expressive of the filial duty, gratitude & satisfaction of the Governor & Company of the Colony on the happy occasion of the beneficial repeal of the Stamp Act"; with other letters addressed "to all those who have distinguished themselves as the friends & advocates of the British Colonies in America, on this important occasion, whether as Members of the British Parliament or in other ways." The Governor was also requested to issue a proclamation appointing a day of public Thanksgiving, "to be religiously observed throughout the colony, on the happy occasion of the beneficial repeal of the late Stamp Act."†

The Assembly met at New Haven on the second Thursday in October, when Fairfield was represented by Captain David Burr and Judge Ebenezer Silliman.

A most solemn oath of allegiance to King George III. was taken at this time, rejecting the pretensions of James III. and against all other pretenders whatsoever, limiting the succession to the crown "to the Princess Sophia, Electress & Duchess Dowager of Hanover & her heirs being Protestants." They expressed their abhorrence of the Popes, "communications of princes, transubstantiation of the Sacrament, absolution by priests; & that no foreign prince, person or prelate, state or potentate hath or ought to have any jurisdiction, power, superiority, pre-eminence as authority ecclesiastical or spiritual within the realm of Great Britain."<sup>‡</sup>

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, p. 450.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, pp. 466, 467.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, p. 495.

The sum allowed for the encouragement of schools having proved insufficient, an act was passed that from January, 1767, the sum of twenty shillings lawful money should be levied upon every thousand pounds of the taxable list of each town & society, instead of ten shillings. Each district in the towns was allowed its proportion of this money, as well as all other public moneys.

An act was also passed for preserving oysters and clams in Fairfield, and all other towns bordering on the sea, sound or rivers. Each town was given authority in their town meetings to make rules and ordinances for preserving such shell fish, " & to lay such restrictions against taking them in improper seasons, provided such penalty should not exceed the sum of five pounds in money."

Mr. Abel Seeley was established lieutenant, and Mr. Hezekiah Hubbell ensign of the Stratfield train-band of the Fourth Regiment.

The taxable estates of Fairfield this year were £62,326 18s. 11d.

In October the clergy of the Church of England in Connecticut and from New York met in convention at Stratford, and on the eighth of that month petitioned the Lord Bishop of London "to procure a worthy Protestant Bishop in some of the colonies: especially since the Roman Catholics are so happy as to be indulged with a popish one, & the Moravians with theirs, & the Presbyterians, &c., have the full enjoyment of their way of government & discipline; while the poor Church of England is considered by them with contempt, that she cannot enjoy hers; nor indeed, so much as a shadow of anything that can be called Ecclesiastical Government." This petition was signed by Samuel Johnson, President of the Convention, and by the Reverends Samuel Auchmutz, John Beach, Joseph Lawson, Jere'h Leaming, Solomon Palmer, Christopher Newton, James Scovil, Sam'l Andrews, John Beardsley, Roger Viets and Bela Hubbard.\*

1767. The General Assembly met at Hartford, on the 29th of January, to take into consideration a letter which had been received from General Gage, the commander-in-chief of his Majesty's forces in America, in regard to quartering one hundred and eighty-eight recruits, just arrived in a vessel from Germany for his Majesty's two battalions of the Royal Regiment in Fairfield, Stamford and Norwalk during the winter season. The Assembly granted General Gage's request to quarter the troops in

\* Hist. Prot. Episcopal Church, etc., by Bishop Hawkes and William Stevens Perry, Vol. 2, p. 102.

the colony, but they notified him, "that as Fairfield & the neighboring towns had hitherto been burdened with his Majesty's forces, quartered & billeted upon them, during two winters, they had been encouraged to believe they should not be burdened with more, until some other towns had done the like service." New Haven, Wallingford and Branford were suggested as fitting places for the troops, with better justice to Fairfield and the other sea-coast towns, unless General Gage should give orders to the contrary. Regulations were also made raising the rate of quartering the forces above the sum formerly allowed, so as to make it five shillings a week for each soldier, to be paid out of the colony treasury.\*

The General Assembly met again on the second Thursday in May, at Hartford, when Judge Ebenezer Silliman and Captain David Burr were present as deputies from Fairfield. Mr. David Rowland was appointed one of the Judges of the County and of the District Probate Court of Fairfield.

Mr. Abraham Gold was established captain, and Mr. Elijah Abel lieutenant of the first train-band, and Mr. Hezekiah Sturges lieutenant, and John Whitear ensign of the second train-band in Fairfield; Mr. Gideon Hurlburt lieutenant, and Mr. John Andrews ensign of the train-band in the west parish of Fairfield; Mr. Simon Couch ensign in the east Reading train-band; Mr. Stephen Mead captain, and Mr. Salmon Read lieutenant in the west division of Reading parish, and Mr. Henry Sommers ensign in the train-band of North Fairfield and partly of North Stratford, in the Fourth Regiment.†

A further increase of money was made for the encouragement of schools. Forty shillings were granted upon every thousand pounds to the several towns in the colony, instead of the twenty shillings on each thousand pounds, granted in the October session of the Assembly for the maintenance of schools.

The inhabitants of Reading petitioned the Assembly to be made a town. Their petition was granted, and the parish of Reading was made "a distinct town by itself, with all the liberties, privileges and immunities which by law the other towns in the colony have & do enjoy: & that said new constituted town shall hereafter be called by the name of the *Town of Redding*; with this limitation & restriction, that but one Representative shall at any time attend the General Assembly."‡

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, pp. 541-544. † Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, pp. 555, 557, 559.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, p. 580.



At the October Assembly the act for quartering his Majesty's regular forces in the colony was extended to October of the following year.

An important act was passed, making it the duty of the selectmen in each town "to erect & heap up stones at least two foot high, near the side of the common travelling & post road, marked with the distances from the county town of the county, where such town lyes, according to the mensuration lately made by public order."\*

The taxable estates of Fairfield were valued at £50,134 1s. 5d.

1768. The Rev. Mr. Lamson of Fairfield, writing to the Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts, informed them that the wardens and vestry of the Church of England in Fairfield had purchased nine acres of glebe-land with part of the money given them by Mr. George Talbot, a deed of which, after being recorded at Fairfield, should be sent to the Honorable S. P. G. in England.† The Rev. Mr. John Beach of Redding wrote: "The more zealous Churchmen they are, by so much stronger is the affection they discover for King & Parliament."

The General Assembly met at Hartford on the second Thursday in May, and continued by several adjournments until the 10th day of June. Judge Ebenezer Silliman and Captain David Burr were present as deputies from Fairfield.

Mr. Nathan Morehouse was established lieutenant, Mr. David Coley captain and Mr. Jeremiah Sturges, Jr., ensign of the society of Norfield. Mr. Samuel Wakeman lieutenant, and Mr. Reuben Bradly ensign of the parish of North Fairfield in the Fourth Regiment.‡

Daniel Morris was appointed guardian of the Golden Hill Indians. His duty was to report yearly, in June, to the Court of Probate at Fairfield, an account of the use, profit and improvement made on the Indian reservation, as well as all disbursements made by him to the Indians.§

It was enacted that a duty of five pounds "should be paid on every hundred pounds worth of goods, wares & merchandise, except timber, brought into the colony either by water or land carriage, by all & every person not inhabitants within the same."

The relief and joy afforded the American colonies at the repeal of the Stamp Act was of short duration. The act accompanying this repeal giving Parliament power to tax the colonies had given much disquietude

\* See Post Roads, Appendix A. Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XII, p. 608.

† Hawkes and Perry's Hist. Prot. Episcopal Church in America, Vol. 2, p. 121.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XIII, pp. 12, 15. § Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XIII, p. 65.

to many thoughtful minds. In less than two years Charles Townshend, Chancellor of the Exchequer, resolved, in the depleted condition of the English revenues, to lay a tax on tea, glass, paper and painters' colors sent into America, which would amount to about £40,000 a year. His death soon after made a change in the ministry, and a new office for a colonial secretary was established and given to the Earl of Hillsborough. Upon the arrival of the ill-advised tax of Townshend, a still greater degree of indignation prevailed in the American colonies than that caused by the Stamp Act. Riots prevailed everywhere, especially in Boston. James Otis, John and Samuel Adams and John Hancock of Massachusetts, Jonathan Trumbull of Connecticut, John Dickinson of Pennsylvania, Patrick Henry and R. H. Lee of Virginia, Gadsden and Rutledge of South Carolina, with Dr. Benjamin Franklin, who had lived several years in London as agent for several of the colonies, and where his opinion was of great weight, all raised their voices against taxation without representation. James Otis had first contended that the revenue bill, under the form of regulations of trade, violated the rights of the colonists as much as direct taxation. In this opinion he was sustained by the other colonies. The tax levied was not so large, but by yielding to it a direct principle was at stake. Executive combinations were formed to avoid the use of the taxed articles, and as far as possible all other British importations. Non-importation was resorted to as the most direct and legal way to escape from the offensive tax. This so depleted the profits of the British merchants that they petitioned for a repeal of the odious tax law. To further their interests, their petition was granted; "but Parliament obstinately sustained its pretended right to tax the colonies by retaining a tax of three pence on the pound on tea, which was even at a lower price than it had been formerly." A war of opinions and pamphlets upon the subject were issued both in America and Great Britain. Whispers of full liberty were heard. Riots followed in Boston; and while Connecticut and the other colonies were not so violent, strong opposition was manifested by many. Associations calling themselves "Sons of Liberty & Daughters of Liberty" were formed to enter into agreements of non-importation and to give up the use of tea.

The colonists generally recognized that not one iota of their just rights should be yielded, knowing full well that other impositions would soon follow. In Great Britain this firmness on the part of the American colonies was regarded as high-headed independence and most disloyal.

Dr. Franklin wrote: "every man in England seemed to consider himself as a piece of sovereign over America; seems to jostle himself into the throne of the King, & talks of 'our subjects in the colonies.'" The King, with his clouded intellect, entertaining high ideas of his prerogative, obstinately adhered to his mistaken opinions. The colonies which but a few years before had boasted with pride and affection of the mother country, were fast becoming alienated. Even Connecticut, which had boasted of having been more devoted to the interests and requirements of the King and parliament than any other colony, regarded with deep regret and sorrow the unwise and unjust acts of oppression.

In the May Assembly it was agreed that Governor Pitkin should reply to a letter which he had received from the Earl of Hillsborough.

The Governor first congratulated Earl Hillsborough upon his new office of Colonial Secretary, and "assured him that the royal recommendations had never been neglected in Connecticut; & that as soon as possible his lordship's requests should be answered. He then laid before Earl Hillsborough the oppressive acts of the British Parliament, "for allowing a drawback of the duties of customs upon the exportation from this kingdom of coffee & cocoa-nuts of the produce of the said Colonies or Plantations; for discontinuing the drawback payable on china earthenware exported to America; & for more effectually preventing the clandestine running of goods in the said Colonies & Plantations;" of the great burdens, charges & expenses of the last war, which had become almost insupportable; that a still greater grievance was the duties imposed by Parliament upon America for the sole purpose of raising a revenue in America, "by which they regarded themselves stripped of their constitutional rights as English subjects; that the royal charter granted by King Charles Second to the Connecticut Governor & Company & to their heirs & successors, gave them all the liberties & annuities of free & natural born subjects of England, & as such the consequences ought to be clear & convincing to his lordship *that we ought not to be taxed without our consent & without representation in Parliament;*" that it was "with grief of heart to reflect that the Parliament should dispose of our property without our consent, after having so cheerfully & valiantly contributed & defended the King's dominions against all attempts & annoyances from foreign & domestic enemies; that the product of our labor & trade naturally & necessarily centered in Great Britain; that the people of Connecticut prided themselves in their connection with the British government; & that our affection & interest cemented them so strongly as to prevent them from entertaining the most distant wish of being separated from the protection of the mother state; that our ancestors, the first settlers of Connecticut, purchased & obtained the greater part of their lands for great & valuable considerations; & some of it by conquest & with much difficulty & expense subdued & improved the same; that for more than a century the colony had enjoyed the privileges granted them under their charter, & were thereby blessed with the constitutional rights of Englishmen, *the principle of which is that of being taxed only by representatives of their own free election,* in consequence of which the representatives of the Colony, as subjects of Great Britain, in the General Assembly, had on all occasions granted & levied reasonable assessments, rates & taxes, & disposed of them for his Majesty's service & for the security of his rights & territories in America."

To the Colony agent, Mr. Jackson, Governor Pitkin addressed letters, urging him to give his utmost attention to the opposition in the colonies against this unjust taxation, etc., and wrote:

It is painful to hear the colonies compared to Ireland, who were subjects by conquest, & by their conduct had forfeited the immunities we are justly entitled to; that the principles & arguments relative to the Charter ought to be conclusive to every impartial & judicious mind; *but the principle of taxation without representation* contradicted the essential rights contained therein. Such explaining away liberty & prosperity of a free & loyal people, contrary to plain words & intentions, draws a prodigious gloom over their minds, & hardly leaves room to rejoice in Freedom even in imagination; that he would see by a letter from the Assembly, as well as one addressed to the King, the deep concern & great anxiety the good people of this Colony are thrown into. As to the manufactories & the fisheries, which had been made an object of attention in the last Parliament, "it would be well if the jealousies exhibited had no existence but in idea."\*

Zebulon West, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, addressed a reply to a letter received from the Speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, "praising the laudable spirit of the Massachusetts people; & stating that no constitutional measure proper for relief should be neglected by any; that the colonies ought to cultivate the strictest friendship, utmost candor & harmony towards each other; as all the sister colonies by the acts of Parliament must thereby be involved in great difficulties, which are perhaps a prelude to still greater."

On the 30th of August David Rowland, Esq., died in the fifty-fourth year of his age. He had been prominent in the political events of the colony, and filled many offices of high trust and importance with honor and credit. He was buried in the old Burial Hill Cemetery of Fairfield. Over his grave his tombstone still stands, near those of his two wives and daughter. His death was a sad loss to Fairfield, as such men were needed in the trying ordeal the country had entered upon.†

It was about this time that a noted prisoner by the name of Frazer, thinking to escape, set fire to the jail in Fairfield where he was confined. He also burned the court-house. It was voted at a town meeting, April 25th, that the County of Fairfield should erect a new court-house on the Meeting-house Green, "a little north-westerly of the new school-house." It was also voted that the county should erect a new prison, and a house for the jail-keeper on the westerly part of the Meeting-house Green, north-westerly of the pond, as well as a garden for the jail-keeper, "the westerly extension of said garden to be five rod distant from Mr. Thad-

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XIII. pp. 84, 90.

† Appendix—Genealogical.



deus Burr's home-lot."\* On this spot the jail and the school-house, or Academy, were rebuilt after the Revolution.

On the 25th of October a memorial was presented to the Assembly by a number of the residents of Green's Farms, that they might be allowed to drain the salt meadows in that parish; "part of which meadows are adjoining the beach where the tide ebbs & flows; & that there is a dam across a certain creek, running through said meadows at a place called Gallop's Gap, which beach & dam had been broken down." The committee requested to be paid "for building said dam-railing, the beach & draining the tide out of the meadows." Cornelius Hall and John Hide were appointed commissioners to attend this service.

The Rev. Mr. Lamson informed the Secretary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts "that the wardens & Vestry of the Church of England in Fairfield had purchased nine acres of land for a Glebe, with part of the money given by Mr. George Talbot."

1769. By order of Governor Pitkin the General Assembly met on January 5th, and continued, after several adjournments, until the 27th day of the month.

A memorial had been presented to the Assembly October 3, 1768, "by John Hubbell & others, of the towns of Fairfield & Redding, begging the westerly part of the Fourth Regiment of militia in the colony might be made a separate troop of horse." This petition was granted at the sitting of the Assembly.†

The Assembly met as usual on the second Thursday in May, and continued by adjournments until June 8th. Judge Ebenezer Silliman and Captain David Burr were present as deputies.

The Governor's oath, required by act of Parliament, was made and passed in the fourth year of the reign of George III., entitled, "An Act for granting certain duties in the British Colonies & Plantations in America," etc., and said oath was in due form administered to Governor Pitkin.‡

Mr. Gold Sellick Silliman was established captain, Mr. John Hubbell lieutenant, Mr. Jabez Hill cornet, and Mr. Samuel Sherwood, Jr., quartermaster of the second troop of horse § in the Fourth Regiment in the colony.

It appears that after the burning of the court-house and jail at Fair-

\* Fairfield Town Records.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XIII, p. 170.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XIII, p. 154.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XIII, p. 177.

field, the towns of Stamford, Ridgefield, Danbury and Redding petitioned the General Assembly in 1768 to remove the court-house and jail to Norwalk. This petition was granted by the lower house, "but the upper house resolved in the negative." The petition was renewed in January of this year, and was joined by other towns, representing that Norwalk was a much more desirable place for a court house and jail in every way; but this petition also received a negative vote.\*

The old method of Bland's Exercise, used by the military of the colony, now out of date, "being too prolix, with many useless motions," the Assembly passed a vote to adopt the Norfolk Militia Exercise, as "more convenient & expeditious."

The General Assembly met at New Haven the second Thursday in October, and continued by several adjournments until the 3d of November. Meanwhile, Governor Pitkin had died, October 1st, aged seventy years. Both houses proceeded without delay to elect Jonathan Trumbull, who, since the mistake of Governor Fitch, had acted as deputy governor of the colony.

The House of Representatives passed the following resolutions:

*"Resolved*, That this House do highly approve the conduct of the merchants of the Massachusetts Bay, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, & all the other Colonies who, in these critical times, have made so noble a stand to save the liberties of this country by refusing to import several British manufactures until the revenue laws are repealed; thereby sacrificing their private fortunes to the cause of liberty from such truly patriotic views as ought to transmit their memories with distinguished honor to the latest posterity, & ordered that the clerk of the House be directed to cause a copy of this resolve to be published in the several newspapers in this Colony."†

Mr. David Burr was appointed one of the auditors of the colony treasury.

Mr. Gideon Hurlburt was established captain, Mr. John Andrews lieutenant, and Mr. Stephen Wakeman ensign of the train-band in the society of Greens Farms, in the Fourth Regiment.

Governor Trumbull, with Colonel George Wylls, were appointed a committee "to search after all deeds of conveyance relative to the titles of lands granted by the Crown to this Colony by the Royal Charter; & if not found in America, to write the Agent of this Colony in Great Britain, to make diligent search for the aforesaid deeds; & also the grant

\* Connecticut Miscellaneous Documents, Vol. 3, p. 273.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XIII, note on page 236.

to the Duke of York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island, & in general all other grants that can affect us, & have them duly authenticated & transmit them to said committee; that they may be lodged in the Secretary's office, & make their report to the General Assembly as soon as it can be accomplished."\*

Only the greatest apprehensions led the General Assembly to make the above resolutions. The colonies had hoped to find a friend in Lord Hillsborough; but they were greatly disappointed, as he joined Lord North, then prime minister, when the parliament repealed the obnoxious taxes laid on the American colonies, in supporting a duty on tea as a parliamentary matter of right.

Colonel Andrew Burr of Fairfield, who had for many years occupied one of the most prominent positions in the Colony of Connecticut, until a few years before his death, died November 9, 1769, well advanced in years. He possessed the confidence and highest respect not only of the town of Fairfield, but of the Colony of Connecticut, both as a statesman and one of its chief military officers. He particularly distinguished himself by bravely leading his regiment in the siege and capture of the fortress of Louisburg. His life was one continued advancement in usefulness, crowned with years of well-spent energy for the best interests of Fairfield, Connecticut and the American colonies.†

It was voted at a town meeting held at Fairfield, December 27th, to erect "a powder-house to receive & lodge the town magazine." This powder-house is still standing on the hill, which, in those days, was called the Rocks.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XIII, p. 247.

† Appendix—Genealogical.

## CHAPTER XIV

1770—1780

### THE WAR OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

#### PART FIRST

1770.—Increasing spirit of liberty. — Civil and military officers. — Repel of colony duties on exports. — Exasperating conduct of English troops. — Boston Massacre. — Day of fasting and prayer. — 1771.—Civil and military officers. — Personal taxes. — Death of Col. James Smalley. — 1772.—Civil and military officers. — Great storm. — Drilling soldiers. — 1773.—Civil and military officers. — Purchase of arms. — Judge Silliman's letters to the colonies. — Census of the colony and regiments. — Western Lands. — Tea shipped back to England. — *Boston Tea Party*. — 1774.—Civil and military officers. — Western Lands. — Boston Port Bill. — Dr. Benjamin Franklin. — Action of General Assembly. — Day of fasting and prayer. — Preparations for war. — Congress of colonies at Philadelphia. — Boston port closed. — Fairfield sends assistance and supplies. — Connecticut regiments called out. — Industry of Daughters of Liberty. — Military arms inspected. — Importing slaves into Connecticut prohibited. — Military officers appointed and ammunition distributed. — Bills of Credit. — Assembly opposition to British colonial acts. — Fairfield's approval of Colonial Convention's resolutions, and call a county congress. — Strict economy agreed upon. — 1775.—Large call for ammunition. — Negro spirit roused to fight. — Bonds of naval officers. — Contributions to Boston while besieged. — Letter to Earl Dartmouth. — King permits limited fishing on New Foundland banks. — Patrick Henry. — Preparation for war throughout the colonies. — Battle of Lexington. — Troops set out for relief of Boston. — Men from Fairfield. — Special Assembly. — Embargo on food, grain, etc. — Committees of supply and relief. — Forces for Connecticut. — Officers appointed. — *The Fifth Regiment*. — Bills of Credit. — Committees for ammunition. — Defence of seaports. — Four regiments sent to Boston. — Fasting and prayer. — Governor Trumbull's letter to General Gage. — Insolent reply of Gen. Gage. — May Assembly. — Civil and military officers. — Bills of credit and taxes. — Every war preparation made. — Regiment standards. — Premium for stands of arms and ammunition. — Act passed for defending the colony. — Expedition against Ticonderoga and Crown Point. — Kindness to prisoners of war. — Council of War. — Provincial Congress of New York, New Jersey and Philadelphia. — Col. George Washington appointed Commander-in-Chief of the army. — Israel Putnam Major General of Connecticut forces. — Continental bills of credit. — Connecticut forwards troops and ammunition to Boston. — Battle of Breeds and Bunker Hill. — Battle flags. — Connecticut troops sent to New London and New York. — General Washington sets out for Massachusetts and passes through Fairfield. — General Tryon arrives in New York. — Connecticut officers and troops posted near New York. — Fairfield sends food and ammunition of relief to Boston. — More regiments raised. — Fairfield officers. — Naval vessels. — Mile stones. — General Montgomery's forces to attack Quebec. — Bills of credit issued. — Provisions sent out of the colony. — Embargo laid. — First colony uniforms. — Marriage of Hon. John Hancock and Miss Dorothy Quincey. — Continental money. — General Washington prepares his troops for action. — Calls for more troops from Connecticut. — New stands of arms. — Money and supplies sent to sick soldiers at Ticon-



deroga and prisoners of war.—Capt. Stephen Thorp's sloop of provisions sent to Massachusetts.—Connecticut retains her charter government.—Brother Jonathan.—Expedition against Canada.—Heroes of Fairfield.—Minute-men.—Bounty for salt-petre and nitre.—Powder mill in each town.—Punishment of Tories.—Enemy ordered to harass coast towns.—Congress makes it a crime to assist the British.—Vessels and row galleys ordered to defend the coast of Connecticut.—Coast guards.—Ammunition and stores.—1776.—Reinforcements for New York.—Cannon and ammunition for Fairfield.—Fort at Grover Hill erected.—Lieut. Ebenezer Bartram.—Captain Harding of Brig Defence.—Dorchester Heights.—Boston evacuated.—Great rejoicing.—Col. Gold Sellick Silliman's regiment sent to New York to join General Washington.—Lieut. John Mills.—Lieut. Samuel Smedley of Brig Defence and Joseph Squire.—Row galleys fitted out.—German troops sent to assist the English.—Fresh troops ordered out.—General Washington's reply to General Howe.—General Assembly of May.—Civil and military officers.—Five regiments of cavalry.—Major David Dimon of new regiment.—Bills of credit issued and taxes.—Call for all able bodied men.—Continental bills of credit.—Captain Samuel Squire commissary.—Premium for gun-lock.—Letters of marque and reprisal.—Mr. Thaddeus Burr specie agent of postal money, etc.—Fairfield officers.—Inhabitants of towns ordered to arm and form themselves into companies of defence.—Attack to be made on Fairfield discovered.—Armed galleys ordered out.—Embargo on provisions and grain.—The General Assembly proposes through their delegates to Continental Congress to declare the United American Colonies *free and independent states*.—National standard of stars and stripes.—British attack upon Virginia.—The *Declaration of Independence declared July 4, 1776*.—Prayers for the king and royal family omitted.—Battalions raised for northern department.—Continental army.—Boston.—Fairfield officers.—Bills of Credit.—Last Assembly of the colony of Connecticut.—Patriotic proclamation read in every church.—Ammunition for Fairfield.—Three regiments of light horse sent to New York.—Supplies and money sent to *Black Rock Fort*.—Brig Defence captures several British vessels.—Newgate Prison.—Tow-cloth tents.—Military uniforms.—Spies punished.—Cannon supplied to Black Rock Fort.—Brigantine Defence sent out to secure prizes.—Naval officers and seamen raised for northern lakes.—General Howe's attack on Charleston, and Long Island.—Battle of Long Island.—American prisoners and *Prison-Ships*.—Gen. Washington retreats to Harlem.—Eight regiments sent to New London to harass the English on Long Island.—Families flee from Long Island to Connecticut.—Fast Day.—Regiments sent to Westchester.—Hospital erected.—Nathaniel Hale.—Gen. Washington defeats the British on East River.—British occupation of New York.—Public and private buildings burned.—Fort Washington.—Battle of White Plains.—Gen. Washington retires to New Castle and Gen. Howe to New York.—State of Connecticut Assembly endorsed the Declaration of Independence.—State, civil and military officers amenable only to the State of Connecticut.—Charter rights maintained.—Punishment of traitors.—Oath of Fidelity.—Tories warned.—Counterfeiters punished.—Necessary supplies impressed.—Embargo on food and clothing.—Women and children plow and plant fields.—Husking parties.—Relief sent to General Washington.—Captain Samuel Squire to seize all necessary articles for the army.—Thaddeus Burr sent to Washington's camp.—Eight regiments sent to protect the borders of the Sound.—Tories sent to western parts of the State.—Gold Sellick Silliman, Abraham Gold and Jonathan Dimon promoted in Fourth State militia regiment.—Prizes taken by brig Defence.—Ammunition sent to Fairfield.—Defeat of Americans on Lake Champlain.—British fleet off Fairfield and Norwalk.—Guards stationed along the coast.—Defeat of General Lee at Fort Washington.—Gen. Washington retired from Fort Lee to Trenton and Pennsylvania.—Washington attacks and defeats the British at Trenton and Princeton and occupies Morristown Heights.—Gen. Lee taken prisoner.—Great drain of officers and men from Connecticut.—Twenty-five Connecticut regiments formed into six brigades.—Prices fixed upon labor of all kinds.—Industrial and imported goods.—State Loan office.—Troops sent to Gen. Washington

from western Connecticut.—Thaddeus Burr one of committee for the Sound.—Alarm, 1776.—and men from sixteen to sixty years of age to protect coast towns.—Fairfield alarm soldiers.—Troops sent to Rhode Island.—Care of all sick soldiers.—Gold Selleck Silliman Brigadier General of Fourth State militia brigade.—State tax.—Guard at New-Field Harbor.—1777.—Lieut. Samuel Smedley promoted.—Brig Defence prizes.—Washington sends for all available troops for eastern New York.—Distribution of other prizes.—Fort Black Rock reinforced.—Rev. John Sayer sent as a Tory prisoner from Fairfield to Farmington.—Thaddeus Burr to collect tons of flax for the State; and hundreds of tons of flax and rye to send out of the State.—Lieut. Samuel Smedley promoted captain of Brig Defence.—Smallpox hospitals.—Fairfield military guard commanded by Brig. Gen. Silliman.—Troops sent to Fort Black Rock.—Treaty with the Six Nations.—France tenders supplies to Governor Trumbull.—Silas Dean, Arthur Lee and Benjamin Franklin sent by Congress commissioners to France, Prussia and Spain.—France sends arms and ammunition.—Marquis de LaFayette and De Kalb sail for America.—Families of volunteers supported at the expense of the State.—Alarm at Fairfield from enemy's ships.—Capt. Samuel Squire to supply two armed ships to cruise the Sound.—Cannon and ammunition sent to Fairfield and New Field.—General Silliman to protect stores at Danbury.—All towns called to furnish full military quotas.—Ammunition sent to Fairfield.—Captain Smedley takes prizes.—General Gates sends for reinforcements.—British attack on Danbury.—Attack on Gen's Silliman's, Arnold's and Wooster's forces.—General Wooster mortally wounded.—Battle at Ridgefield.—Lieut. Col. Abraham Gold killed.—Battle at Saugatuck Bridge.—British sail from Compo to Huntington, L. I.—Gen. Wooster's valuable services.—Reinforcements sent to Continental forces.—Gen. Meigs' retaliation.—Troops sent to sea coast.—Connecticut credit.—Ecclesiastical laws.—Court-martial regulation.—Three years enlistment.—Taxes.—Battalions raised to protect towns on the Sound.—Salt manufacturers.—State of Connecticut army commissions.—Pensions for disabled soldiers.—War Record office.—Deserters.—Exchange of prisoners.—Pardon to deserters upon taking State oath of allegiance.—Fairfield military officers.—Captain Samuel Squire to supply state troops and those at Peekskill with stores and clothing.—Captain Samuel Smedley sent on naval cruise.—First national flag.—Troops sent to Fairfield.—Rev. John Sayer returned to Fairfield.—Movements of Washington.—Gen. Howe's victories on the Delaware.—Movements of Gen. Burgoyne and Gen. Schuyler.—Gen. Silliman sends troops to Peekskill.—Larger taxes laid on towns.—Declaration of Independence ordered recorded.—More troops sent to Peekskill.—Sale of prize goods at Fairfield.—Thaddeus Burr to impress necessary provisions and clothing for the army.—Arnold's victory at Fort Schuyler.—Battle of Bennington.—Thanksgiving.—Death of Col. David Dimon.—Great economy practiced.—Fortifications of New Field and Stratfield.—Outburst of patriotism.—Kosciusko's fortifications.—Battle of Bemis Heights.—Detachments from Fairfield brigade sent under General Silliman to Peekskill to join General Putnam's forces.—Oath of allegiance and fidelity.—Economic laws and licenses.—Connecticut and United States bills of credit maintained.—Maintenance of aged slaves.—Ministers to urge strict honesty and morality.—Reduction of Continental bills in circulation.—Each state taxed for war expenses.—Prison ships provided.—£20,000 to supply blankets and wool goods from France and elsewhere.—Connecticut's new issue of bills of credit.—English defeated at Bemis Heights.—Burgoyne's retreat.—Ticonderoga taken by Americans.—Renewed courage and hope for victory.—General Silliman sends fresh troops to Peekskill.—Washington at Valley Forge.—Sufferings of his army.—Washington censured.—Upheld by the country.—Thanksgiving Day for victories appointed by Congress throughout the United States.—Military uniforms sent to Washington.—Constant alarm at Fairfield and neighboring towns.—British Prison ships in New York harbor.—Hon. John Hancock resigns presidency of Congress.—1778.—Brighter prospects.—Well disciplined troops.—An united resolve to conquer.—France recognizes the independence of the American States.—Joyous news reaches Washington at Valley Forge.—Barrack masters for

each town.—Fresh troops raised and equipped.—Everything needed to be impressed.—Troops for Fairfield.—Clothing sent to American prisoners in New York.—Fourth Regiment officers.—Release of prisoners at Fairfield.—Naval officers.—Reception of Benjamin Franklin and Silas Dean by French king.—Treaty of amity and peace.—English offer of almost absolute independence rejected.—England declares war against France.—Large bounties for recruits.—Large taxes and liberal offers to farmers.—New England states join in uniformity of labor-prices.—Six battalions raised for immediate and constant service.—Day of fasting and prayer. Extra teams impressed to carry provisions and clothing to New York for troops under Washington.—Guard at New Field Harbor.—Fairfield military posts.—Petitions for an armed vessel to guard coast.—All the States aroused to drive the British from the country.—Gen. Lafayette's skillful services to relieve Washington.—Washington appoints a day of thanksgiving in his army at Valley Forge.—Great exultation.—Estates of Tories confiscated.—General muster and alarm forces in Connecticut.—£100,000 ordered to be borrowed.—Cattle seized for U. S. army. Embargo laid on clothing and provisions except for the U. S. A.—Taxes.—Address of Congress sent to each town in the U. S. to be read in each congregation.—Cannon for Grover Hill Point.—Battle of Monmouth.—British retire to New York.—Washington to White Plains.—Connecticut coast towns in constant alarm.—Special couriers.—Arrival of Count D'Estaing's fleet.—French ambassador Gen. Gerard's arrival in Philadelphia.—D'Estaing sails for Newport.—Washington sends for Connecticut troops to march to Providence, R. I.—Company sent from Fairfield.—Captain Samuel Smedley sent from Boston to seize enemy's vessels.—Engagement off Newport between D'Estaing and Admiral Byron's English fleet.—Land engagement at Newport.—Forces sent to New London and Fairfield.—Horse racing forbidden.—Taxes.—Ammunition sent to Fairfield.—Ship Defence prize money.—Massacre at Wyoming and Cherry Valley.—Dec. 30, Thanksgiving Day.—1779.—State tax.—Congress calls upon the states for fifteen million dollars.—Connecticut to raise seventeen hundred thousand dollars.—Heavy taxes to meet this demand.—Maintenance of military officers and private families.—Prize money distribution among naval officers and seamen.—Sixty thousand pounds distributed among Connecticut soldiers.—Volunteers sent to Fairfield.—Connecticut towns send relief to Rhode Island sufferers.—Fairfield sends 1500 bushels of grain.—Spain for once joins against the English.—1779.—Artillery officers for Fairfield.—Cap. Smedley sent out against the enemy.—Supplies for Black Rock Battery.—Family inspection of grain and army supplies made.—Battalions filled, bounties paid, army paid equivalent to gold and silver.—Shrinkage of Continental Bills of Credit.—General Silliman taken prisoner.—General Assembly in May at Hartford.—Civil and military officers.—Taxes.—Town votes for congressional delegates.—Duelling prohibited.—Call for full state battalions.—Demand from Fairfield recruits.—Military officers.—Value of Fairfield estates.—Adjoining states call for assistance and supplies.—Wreck of the ship Defence.—Loss of ship Oliver Cromwell.—Fairfield supplies ammunition to Lieut. Col. Noadiah Huntington.—The ship Guilford.—British attack New Haven.—British attack towns Fairfield, Mill River, and Green's Farms.—Officer and men in Black Rock Fort.—Penfield Mills saved.—Rev. Andrew Eliot's description of burning of Fairfield.—Pilot of General Tryon's forces.—Rev. Dr. Timothy Dwight's description of the conflagration.—Major Talmage from White Plains reached Fairfield July 9th.—Threat to Mrs. Jonathan Bulkley.—Heroic women of Fairfield.—Ellen Gold.—Christ Church record.—Rev. Dr. John Sayer with family leave with the British army.—Dr. Sayer's letter to the S. P. G. from Flushing, L. I.—Patriotic zeal increases at Fairfield.—New and temporary homes prepared.—Patriotic meeting of citizens of Fairfield.—Reward offered for General Tryon.—Gov. Trumbull and Council order town contribution for Fairfield.—Capt. Caleb Brewster's heroism and ancestry.—General Assembly raises two regiments of 4000 men for Continental army with supplies.—Demand on Fairfield.—Appeal to Assembly for Fairfield losses.—Count D'Estaing and General Lincoln defeated at Savannah.—Death of Count Pulaski.—Recovery of Stony Point and Verplanck by General

Wayne.—Attack on the Iroquois. — Portsmouth and *Norfolk* withdrawn from the British — Spain joins France against the British.

1770. THIS decade opened with gloomy apprehensions for our forefathers. The spirit of right, justice and liberty had so thoroughly seized upon the people after their bitter experience of oppression and the Stamp Act duties that many were led to enter upon a firm and fixed resolution to free the colonies from the tyranny of Great Britain. The loyal governors of the colonies had in vain demanded their chartered rights and privileges, which, with the arrogant and high-handed impositions of the British Parliament, served only to exasperate the people to the extent of those well uttered and well remembered words of Patrick Henry: "Give me liberty or give me death." Sending and stationing British troops in the colonies to intimidate the people into submission has already been shown when General Gage ordered his royal troops to be quartered at Fairfield, as well as at Boston and other towns and cities in the colonies, still further widened the breach to an irreparable extent. Great Britain was "all for Great Britain," and her magnificent colonies in America were simply to be made the tools of an unscrupulous King and of parliamentary leaders. But they little understood the spirit of the Americans, whose sons were no longer youthful pioneers, but full-grown men and women, strong in their strength, proud of their birth-rights, their homes, their country, their industries and their liberties, and, above all, the right to worship God according to the dictates of their own consciences. The cloud of war, however undesirable it might be, they felt would disperse only when the full light of an unclouded sky should open brighter than ever over their beloved land, and with a single eye to that glorious day the Sons and Daughters of Liberty resolved to make every sacrifice.

The General Assembly met at Hartford on the second Tuesday in May, and continued by several adjournments until the 8th day of June. Fairfield was represented by Captain David Burr and Judge Ebenezer Silliman. The latter was appointed Judge of the Probate Court of Fairfield.

Ebenezer Squire was made lieutenant in the train-band of Norfield.

The act for laying and collecting duties on merchandise offered for sale by persons not living in the colony, having given great umbrage in England, was repealed. Dr. Johnson had previously written Governor



Trumbull "that the enemies of the colonies in England intended to make use of it in the next parliament."\*

The offensive conduct of the British troops infuriated the citizens of New York and Boston and Fairfield. A liberty pole was cut down by them in New York. The citizens of Boston were incensed that the British officers allowed their troops to go unpunished for their insolence, and it resulted in a sharp conflict with them March 5th, in which three citizens were killed and several wounded. This event caused great excitement throughout the country, and was called the Boston Massacre. Samuel Adams, heading a body of townsmen, insisted upon the British troops being quartered elsewhere, and obliged them to be sent to a neighboring fort in the harbor.†

The merchants still held firmly to their resolutions not to import British commodities, which led to a repeal of all offensive duties by Lord North, the new prime minister, except tea, which was retained to show the right of Parliament to tax the colonies.‡

At the fall session of the Assembly, held at New Haven the second Thursday in October, it was represented that the proclamation for a general fast appointed in May did not reach Fairfield until the day after the fast had been kept in other parts of the colony; in consequence of which, "as it was suspected that such delay was from unfaithfulness & unwarrantable neglect, & in contempt of the authorities of this government, & not through casualty," the King's Attorney of the County of Fairfield was "ordered to make strict inquiry into the matter, & punish any offender or offenders according to law & justice."§

Jonathan Silliman was appointed surveyor of lands within the County of Fairfield.

Jonathan Dimon was appointed captain, and John Hull ensign of the train-band at Greenfield.||

The taxable estates of Fairfield were valued at £49,008 9s. 9d.

At a meeting of the Governor and Council held at Windsor, March 25th, "the 18th of April was appointed to be observed as a day of public Fasting & Prayer throughout the Colony." The Governor was requested to issue a proclamation for that purpose.¶

1771. The Assembly met on the second Tuesday in May, at Hartford.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 13, p. 299.

† Quackenbos' Hist. United States, p. 197.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 13, pp. 376, 377.

§ Quackenbos' Hist. United States, p. 197.

¶ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 13, p. 305.

¶ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 13, p. 412.

Judge Ebenezer Silliman and Captain David Burr represented Fairfield. The former was again appointed Judge of the Fairfield District Probate Court. John Hull was established lieutenant and Ebenezer Burr ensign in the train-band of Greenfield; Hezekiah Sturges captain, John Whiteair lieutenant, and David Dimon ensign of the second train-band in Fairfield.†

At a meeting of the Deputy Governor and Council held at Litchfield, August 15th, Thaddeus Burr, Esq., was appointed sheriff for the County of Fairfield. Gershom Burr and Dr. Francis Forgue became his sureties in the sum of one thousand dollars.‡

A law was passed at the October Assembly regulating the taxable property of the inhabitants of the colony as follows: "traders & shop-keepers 10 pr ct. on the first cost of all goods, wares & merchandise, as well as all traders of wholesale tradesmen, artificers & hotel keepers, except the produce & manufactures within the colony. Every curriec, chaise, or riding wheel-carriage with a covered top, was taxed at the rate of five pounds; & every open chair & other open top riding wheel-carriage three pounds. Dwelling houses one story high with two rooms & two fire-places on the floor were rated on the taxable list at twenty shillings; a house with three rooms & three fire-places on a floor, at thirty shillings; four rooms & four fire-places at forty shillings; dwelling houses of two stories & two rooms & two fire-places on the lower floor, forty shillings; houses of two stories with more than two rooms & two fire-places on the lower floor, at three pounds."§

The taxable list of estates in Fairfield were £48,884 5s. 10d.

Samuel Sherwood was established captain of the train-band of Stratfield.¶

A noted counterfeiter named Thomas Howard Wagstaff, from Philadelphia, was at this time confined in the Fairfield jail for stamping and counterfeiting coins in imitation of Spanish milled dollars; and was not to be released until he should pay the sum of over sixty pounds; "but as his health had seriously failed, & he had no means to pay this sum, he was released by the General Assembly & allowed to work for his maintenance, provided he did not go beyond the town limits; but if he did so, without the consent of the Assembly, he was ordered to be whipped ten stripes on his naked body."¶

"The meeting-house at Stratfield was struck by lightning in July. Mr. John Burr was instantly killed. The shoes of his brother Oziel, standing near him, were ripped open. Mr. David Sherman was also killed."\*\*

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 13, p. 430.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 13, p. 509.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XIII, p. 524.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 13, p. 436.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XIII, pp. 513, 514.

¶ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XIII, p. 543.

\*\* Wheeler's Journal.

Colonel James Smedley, one of the most active and brave military men of Fairfield died November 4, 1771.\*

1772. The General Assembly met at Hartford on the 14th of May. Judge Ebenezer Silliman and Mr. Jonathan Sturges were present as representatives from Fairfield. Judge Silliman was appointed Judge of Probate for the district, and also with his son, Gold Sellick Silliman, Justices of the Peace in the County of Fairfield.

Officers of all regiments in the colony were forbidden to hold expensive entertainments or to attend such made by persons chosen to office in their respective companies, under a penalty of being considered disqualified for promotion.†

Captain David Burr was appointed major of the Fourth Regiment of militia in the colony. Thaddeus Bennet was established lieutenant of the train-band of Stratfield, in the Fourth Regiment.‡

The following interesting account of a terrible thunder-storm is given in William Wheeler's Journal:

"Sept. 2nd. In the evening two black clouds on the southwest & northwest, & one seemed to meet them directly over Fairfield from the northeast; at half-past eight it began to thunder incessantly, the flashes of lightning, which seemed to set the room in a blaze, were about a minute's distance from each other, accompanied with bursts of thunder, like the whole broadside of a ship, making the earth to tremble, & at one time lifting one of our family from the seat at the east side of the house on to her feet; at the same time the room was filled with a sulphurous smell. Abel Wheeler was struck down; & then they all stood up & were struck down. The lightning ran in streams through all the rooms, broke all the lower windows, but hurt none of the people. It also struck the sign post. Down rushed the rain, impetuous as if the flood gates of heaven had been opened. Many thought it was the world's last session, & trembling sat expecting every breath to be the last for three long hours; but at half-past eleven it ceased. They all agree the storm to-night has been the hardest one that ever this land has seen. It must have been as nigh as we can guess. It struck ninety times about this place. A barn was struck & burnt in town."

At the October session of the Assembly an act was passed "for forming & regulating the militia, & for the encouragement of military skill in the Colony." Stringent laws were also passed for the protection of ferries.

Major David Burr was appointed lieutenant-colonel, William Samuel Johnson major and Seth Gregory ensign of the Stratfield company in the Fourth Regiment.§

\* Smedley, Appendix—Genealogical.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 13, pp. 581 and 589.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. p. 13, 580.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 14, pp. 6 and 8.

The estates of Fairfield this year were valued at £10,753 7s. 1d.

1773. On the 13th of May the General Assembly met at Hartford. Judge Ebenezer Silliman and Mr. Jonathan Sturges represented the town of Fairfield. Ebenezer Silliman was chosen Speaker of the House of Representatives, and also made the Probate Judge of Fairfield.

Samuel Blackman was established captain, Nathaniel Wells lieutenant, Ezra Kirtland cornet, and Elnathan Nichols quartermaster of the first troop of horse in the Fourth Regiment.\*

Sixty-four stands of arms, which had been ordered to be purchased from Great Britain in May, were reported to have reached the colony.

Judge Silliman, as Speaker of the House, laid before his associates a letter dated "Friday, 21st May, 1773, from the Speaker of the House of Burgesses of the Colony of Virginia," for "securing & supporting the ancient legal & constitutional rights of this & the Colonies in general." The House heartily approved and endorsed the measures proposed, and resolved that a Standing Committee of correspondence and inquiry be appointed to consist of nine persons, which was headed by the name of Ebenezer Silliman, "to keep up & maintain a correspondence & communication with our sister Colonies, respecting the important considerations mentioned in this letter from Virginia." Judge Silliman was requested "to transmit to the different General Assemblies of the British Colonies on this continent copies of these resolutions."†

The selectmen of each town in the colony were ordered before the general election in May following, to send in to the Governor an exact account of the white inhabitants in their several towns, besides the negroes and Indians, and to "show the number of those under the age of twenty years from those above that age, their sexes, & whether married or single. The colonel of each regiment was ordered to send the Governor the exact number of officers & soldiers in his regiment," thereby to enable his Honor the Governor to prepare an answer lately received from the Earl of Dartmouth, his Majesty's Secretary of State for America.‡

A committee was appointed by the Assembly to assist Governor Trumbull in taking proper steps to pursue the claim of the Colony to what was then called the Western Lands, "lying westward of the Delaware River within the boundaries of this Colony." Any three of this

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 14, p. 87.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XIV, p. 150.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XIV, p. 160.



committee were to visit Governor Penn at Philadelphia, "to make an amicable agreement with other claimants concerning the boundaries of this Colony & the Province of Pennsylvania." The Assembly also agreed to assert their claim to the Susquehannah Lands, "lying westward of the Province of New York." This claim was sent by the committee appointed May, 1771, having been principally drawn up by Governor Trumbull to Mr. Life, the colony agent in England, and was, after a few alterations by him, returned "with opinion of counsel favorable to the claims of the Colony."\*

David Dimon was established lieutenant, and Eliphalet Thorp ensign of the second train-band of Fairfield; Michael Lockwood ensign of the train-band in Norfield, and John Sherwood lieutenant of the north train-band of Fairfield, in the Fourth Regiment.†

The estates of Fairfield this year were valued at £50,400 11s. 5d.

Thus far but little attention had been paid to the import tax on tea brought into the colonies. The previous duty before laid had been renewed, by way of decoying the people into purchasing it at a cheaper rate, but this proved unavailing. The Americans would not import it except in small amounts smuggled into the country; consequently, the use of tea was cheerfully laid aside. Tea rapidly accumulated in the English warehouses. The East India Company, encouraged by the English ministry, resolved to send several cargoes of tea to America, thinking if once landed it would be purchased. In this course they greatly deceived themselves, for the Sons of Liberty were too much on the alert to allow the tea to be landed, " & obliged the consignees to send it back." In New York and Philadelphia the people refused to allow the pilots to guide the ships into the harbor, or to reach the custom-house, and they were forced to return to England. At Charleston it was consigned to damp cellars and quickly spoiled. Governor Hutchinson and Admiral Montague of Boston, against the strongest opposition, would not allow the vessels to leave the harbor. This so incensed the patriots that seven thousand citizens met at a town meeting on the 16th of December to listen to patriotic speeches from Adams, Quincy and others, at the close of which about fifty persons, disguised as Mohawk Indians, with a war-whoop rushed to the three ships in the harbor, tore open the hatchways, and, raising the chests from the holds, broke them open and emptied the tea into the water. This was ever afterwards called the *Boston Tea-party*.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XIV, p. 161.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XIV, pp. 164 and 165.

News of this patriotic manifestation on the part of the people of Boston spread as rapidly as couriers and newspapers could carry it, and produced the most profound realization of the resolute stand which the Sons of Liberty had taken throughout the country. They now were also classed under the names of *Whigs*, while those who favored the British rule and impositions were called *Tories*.

Lieutenant-colonel David Burr, who had for several years been an active and prominent lawyer in the General Assembly and a brave military officer in the Fourth Regiment, died December, 1773, and was buried in the Burial Hill Cemetery of Fairfield, where his tombstone still stands.\*

1774. On the 12th of January the General Assembly met at Hartford. Ebenezer Silliman represented Fairfield and was chosen Speaker of the House.

The Governor was authorized to prohibit all persons from taking possession of any lands lying westward of New York without consent of the General Assembly of Connecticut.

The inhabitants of the lands fifteen miles east of the Delaware River, and bounded west by the Susquehanna River, at a place called *Wyoming*, were joined into a township and called Westmoreland, which was annexed to the County of Litchfield, it being bounded south by the south line of the colony. These settlements were formed by men and their families from Fairfield and other towns in the colony.†

Mr. Nathan Bulkley was appointed by the Assembly as a Justice of the Peace in the County of Fairfield. Major William Samuel Johnson was appointed to fill the place of Lieutenant-colonel David Burr, and made lieutenant-colonel of the Fourth Regiment of the militia in the colony. Captain Gold Sellick Silliman was promoted to be major in the same regiment.‡

Anticipating the result of the opposition which had followed the efforts to carry out the payment of the tea tax, Fairfield, as a seaport town, lost no time in placing her militia under strict military discipline in preparation for the next step Great Britain should take. They did not have to wait long.

The British Parliament, upon learning of the outpouring of the tea in Boston harbor, were incensed beyond expression.

\* Appendix—Genealogical.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 14, pp. 217, 219, and 42.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 14, p. 221.

In March three bills were introduced in parliament, one to shut up the port of Boston and remove the custom-house to Salem. The second virtually abrogated the Massachusetts charter by giving authority to the Governor of appointing council and all officers and juries, and prohibiting town meetings, and to protect the servants of the Crown. All persons charged with murder were to be sent to England for trial. This was afterwards called the Boston Port Bill. The boundaries of Quebec were extended, so as to prevent Canada from taking part with the colonies, and called the *Quebec Act*. Four more regiments were ordered to be quartered in Boston. The usual war of words for and against taxing the colonies was carried to a high pitch by the ministry.

"The bills, however, were carried by a majority of more than four to one."\*

General Gage was appointed governor of Massachusetts, and Boston found herself virtually under martial law. Added to these measures, Dr. Benjamin Franklin became the object of bitter invectives in the Privy Council, and was charged with sending letters to America, "written by some officers of the crown in Massachusetts to their friends in England, which letters had been given to Franklin by some person who had obtained them by strategy or unfair means." Meanwhile Dr. Franklin's letters, as well as those of other agents for the colonies, had been intercepted and read. Three days after Dr. Franklin was deprived of his office as deputy postmaster in America.†

General Gage proceeded to call together a General Assembly of his own choosing; but this did not prevent the regularly chartered General Assembly from meeting in October, when John Hancock, one of the most ardent and capable statesmen of the Revolution, was elected president. Every step was taken to place that colony in a state of defence, "& there was no shrinking from the impending struggle."

Every town and settlement in New England and the provinces sympathized with the humiliations under which Boston was placed. The war-cloud darkened, but still firmer became the Sons of Liberty in their sense of justice and freedom, daily increasing in numbers until a mighty army was silently awaiting the inevitable.

The General Assembly met on the 12th of May, at Hartford. Judge Ebenezer Silliman and Captain Samuel Squire represented Fairfield.

\* Weber's Outlines of Universal History, p. 361. Student's Hume, p. 618.

† See The Student's Hume, p. 617.

Judge Silliman was also chosen Speaker of the House, and his son, William Silliman, clerk. Judge Silliman was also chosen Judge of the Probate Court of Fairfield.

The Assembly, fully alive to the situation of the country, "& the threatening aspect of Divine Providence on the liberties of the people, & the dangers we are threatened with, call for humiliation & prayer to the God of all mercies, to avert his judgment & save his people," resolved that the Governor be requested to issue a proclamation for a day of public fasting throughout the colony, "that God would avert his judgment which threatens us." Accordingly, Governor Trumbull issued a proclamation on the 20th of July, and appointed August 31st for a day of public fasting.\*

The Assembly ordered an exact inventory of all the cannon, small arms, ammunition and other military stores belonging to the colony at New London, and have them properly cared for and placed in safe keeping.

John Andrews was established captain, Stephen Wakeman lieutenant, and Simon Andrews ensign of the train-band in the society of Green's Farms in the Fourth Regiment.†

Dr. Francis Forgue, a native of Toulouse in France, applied to the Assembly for papers of naturalization. He had taken up his residence in Fairfield, after having been previously taken prisoner in the war with France and confined for some time at Fairfield. Upon his release he married Mrs. Sarah Dennie, and by her had a son, Francis, Jr. He, therefore, applied for papers of naturalization to secure to himself and make his son capable of inheriting real estate which he had purchased in the colony. Upon taking the oath of allegiance he was declared to be naturalized and entitled to all the privileges of a citizen born in the colony. His son Francis was declared to be "as capable of inheriting & taking by descent or purchase of all & any real estate or estates whatsoever, as he might, could, or would have had the said Francis the elder been completely naturalized as aforesaid before the birth of the said Francis the younger." The rent, estates and purchases, therefore, of Dr. Forgue were confirmed to him as a naturalized citizen of the colony.‡

On the 3d of June the House of Representatives responded to a proposition from the neighboring British colonies in America to hold

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 14, p. 261.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 14, p. 265.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XIV, p. 309 and Appendix—Genealogical.



a congress of commissioners in some convenient place "to advise on proper measures for advancing the best good of the colonies." A committee met at New London in July and August, and elected Eliphalet Dyer, Silas Deane, Roger Sherman and Joseph Trumbull, any three of whom were empowered to attend the congress in behalf of the colony.\* This congress met in Carpenter's Hall, Philadelphia, September 5th. It was attended by fifty-three delegates, representing all the colonies in America but Georgia. The leading and ablest minds of the country were collected to resolve upon the fate of the American colonies. Without a dissenting voice they all resolved never to submit to the oppression & illegal course of the British Parliament. They united in a petition to the King, but without one ray of hope for any sympathy from him.

Meanwhile the closing of Boston harbor to the exclusion of commerce created universal sympathy, as all masters of vessels were prohibited from receiving or discharging cargoes, and their principal livelihood and that of many of the citizens was through commerce with home and foreign ports. A sea captain in those days stood as high in his position as a judge or military officer in his. Such was the indignation aroused by the Port Bill that Salem and Marblehead offered Boston their wharves, and almost every town and settlement raised clothing, provisions and money to send to their relief.

The townsmen of Fairfield met early in the fall. Patriotic addresses were made from some of the principal gentlemen. It was voted to send immediate relief to Boston. The following is a copy of the town resolution and of a letter sent to their blockaded friends:

"Donations sent to Boston Oct. 10th, 1774—At a Town meeting held at this date the subscription for the relief of the poor of Boston was closed, and the same sent to Boston in the most prudent and expeditious manner.

Capt. Abraham Gold, Messrs. Joseph Strong and Moss Kent be a committee to provide some vessel or vessels to transport what may be received by the General Committee with all expedition to the overseers of the poor, or such other persons or committee as may be appointed by the Town of Boston to receive such donations as shall be sent for the relief of the poor of said Town; and that the master of such vessel or vessels take a receipt of such overseers or committee and deliver the same to said committee first mentioned in this vote at his or their return from said voyage."

The voyage was successfully made and proved of great relief to the suffering Bostonians, who replied by the bearers of the bountiful provisions sent, in the following grateful terms:

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XIV, p. 324.

Boston, Nov. 24, 1774

Gentlemen:—

The testimony which the patriotic inhabitants of the town of Fairfield have given of their attachment to the common & glorious cause of Liberty by their liberal donations of seven hundred & fifty bushels of grain by Capt. Thorp, has afforded much comfort as well as seasonable relief to their friends in Boston, who are now suffering under the cruel rod of tyranny & oppression. The sympathy of our friends is a great support under our trials, notwithstanding the greatness & severity of them; & we trust, through the power of our God, we shall be enabled to persevere in our opposition to the enemies of America, & so answer the hopes and expectations of our friends, of whose generous donations we trust we shall ever retain a grateful sense.

We are particularly obliged by the assurance you give us, that you are not insensible of our sufferings, & the hope you express that you shall consider yourselves bound to afford us such succour & relief as your circumstances & our wants may demand.

May a kind Providence bountifully reward your liberality & kindness, and the blessing of Him that was ready to perish come down & rest on the heads of the generous inhabitants of the town of Fairfield.

We hope the enclosed account of the manner in which the committee are distributing the donations of our friends & benefactors, in whose cause (as our own) this town is suffering, will meet with your approbation, as it will afford great satisfaction to your obliged friends & humble servants,

LIBERTY HULL

By order of the Committee of Donations.

634 Bushels of Rye.

116 Bushels of Wheat.

—  
750—Bushels.

Received 3 pair of shoes of Capt. Thorp.

To Mr. Jonathan Sturges & others, Committee for collecting donations in the town of Fairfield, Connecticut.\*

The Daughters of Liberty in Fairfield formed themselves into a relief society. Stockings were knit, home-spun garments donated, shirts of fine linen were made by dainty fingers and, in fact, every helpful thing done to give sympathy and courage to their besieged relatives and friends in Boston.†

\* Fairfield Town Records.

† Testimony of Miss Eliza Hull of Fairfield. From the *Republican Farmer*, April 15, 1829, copied from the *Buffalo Republican*: "The spinning-wheels and weaving looms of the Daughters of Liberty were never more energetically used. Not one idle moment was allowed, but with whirl and speed the wheels of the Daughters buzzed to the songs of liberty. Yards and yards of home spun linen and all kinds of home clothing were spun. Fifteen years before the Revolution the wife of General Washington kept sixteen spinning wheels running, and wore the fabrics made in her house under her own direction."—Quackenbos' *Hist. U. S. A.*, p. 187.

"Previous to the year 1767 the art of spinning of all sorts was confined to the fingers of the fair alone on high and low wheels. The spinning jenny was at this time invented by James Hargraves of Lancashire, England, containing three spindles. The next invention was the mule, containing

At the meeting of the General Assembly at New Haven, October 13th, a law was passed, calling out all the military companies in the several regiments in the colony, "to be exercised in the use of arms & other exercises proper for a company of infantry," twelve half days from that time until the 1st of May, 1775. A fine was imposed upon all non-commissioned officers or soldiers who should neglect this order of two shillings, to be divided equally between the other members of the company to which they belonged. To those who discharged their duty, a premium of six shillings was allowed each officer and soldier. Every regiment of foot as well as of horse was ordered to meet either together or in parts at the discretion of the commanding officer, for military exercises one day before the 10th of May. Each non-commissioned officer, trooper and soldier was allowed one shilling for attending such exercises. The militia of several small towns were formed into regiments, and companies of volunteers were ordered to report to the colonels of the regiment to which they offered their services and to choose their own officers. The colonels of the several regiments were required to collect the firearms and other implements of war of their several regiments, to be repaired and fitted for use, and make returns of their number and condition with all convenient dispatch.

On the fourth Monday of November a general muster of all the military companies was ordered to take place, for the purpose of military exercises and for the inspection of their arms and accoutrements by the officers of each company.\*

A most humane act was passed during the sitting of this Assembly,

his success would ruin the laboring classes. He removed to Nottingham, and rebuilt his works, and added to the number of his spindles; the mob again demolished his frames all above three spindles. But he was not to be overcome; he turned his attention to carding, and worked four cards on a frame worked by a pulley against four worked by hand, thus saving half the labor, but afterwards constructed cards on rollers or cylinders. This is now only half a century ago, and what a wonderful revolution in the manufacture of cotton! The manufacturing of cotton in America was first begun in Providence, R. I., in 1786, by Messrs. Anthony Dexter & Peck. Their spinning was done by hand with a jenny of a spindle constructed by a clock-maker of Providence. At length Major Orr of Bridgewater, Mass., imported some cotton machinery of which the company drew new patents, and more largely extended their works, and after a year removed to Pawtucket and applied water power. In 1783 Samuel Slater, Esq., arrived from England at Providence. He could both build and make machinery for manufacturing cotton; and from that day to this the business has been constantly progressing and extending in Rhode Island and the neighboring States. We now manufacture of cotton goods more than is required for home-consumption, exporting large quantities to the Southern Continent."

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XIV, p. 327.

prohibiting the importation and sale of Indian, negro or mulatto slaves into the colony, under a penalty of one hundred pounds from any person who should either import, sell or purchase them.\*

Major Gold Sellick Silliman was appointed lieutenant-colonel and Captain Agur Judson major of the Fourth Regiment of militia.† The Fourth Regiment of Connecticut largely supplied men and officers for the Fifth Regiment; in fact, constant drains were made upon it for the northern regiments.

Elijah Abel was appointed captain, Peter Hendrick lieutenant, and Seth Silliman ensign of the first train-band of Fairfield.

Edward Burroughs was made ensign of the Stratford train-band in the Fourth Regiment.

David Dimon was appointed captain, Eliphalet Thorp lieutenant, and Samuel Penfield ensign of the second train-band of Fairfield.

Ezekiel Hull was appointed lieutenant, Stephen Betts cornet, and Jonathan Silliman quartermaster of the second troop of horse in the Fourth Regiment.‡

It was resolved that every town in the colony should be provided as soon as possible with double the quantity of powder, ball and flints that hitherto had been required by law.

Answers to the questions from the Secretary of State in reply to the Earl of Dartmouth's queries on trade, etc., were printed and ordered to be circulated in each town, requesting materials for further replies to be sent to the Assembly for consideration.§

Fifteen thousand pounds in bills of credit were ordered to be struck off for the expenses of the colony, payable before January, 1777, and dated January, 1775, to redeem which a tax of one penny on the pound was levied, according to the list of taxable estates of this October, and an additional tax of one penny for the list of 1775, which taxes were to be paid into the colony treasury December, 1775, and December, 1776. ||

The Assembly, while recognizing King George the Third to be their lawful king, took occasion to renew and declare their chartered liberties and their just rights as colonial subjects of Great Britain; that the right of taxing the colonies was vested alone in the General Assembly. They opposed the Court of Admiralty recently established by Parliament, as

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 14, p. 329.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 14, p. 331.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 14, pp. 334, 340, 341.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 14, 343.

|| Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 14, 346.



well as carrying persons to England, “ & in a summary way without a jury trial,” as unconstitutional and subversive of the chartered rights of the free subjects of the colony; that the harbors and ports could not be shut up without sacrificing the liberties of the people. They declared the late act of Parliament in closing and blockading the port of Boston “ a precedent justly alarming to the British colonies in America; inconsistent & subversive to their constitutional rights,” etc. “ That we look upon the well-being & greatest security of the Colony to depend (under God) in our connection with Great Britain, which it was hoped might be maintained as it had previously been ever since it had existed.” These resolutions were eleven in number.\*

“ At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Fairfield held on the 29th Dec., A. D. 1774, Ebeneser Silliman, Esqr., moderator.

This meeting having duly considered the agreement and association entered into by the Continental Congress lately held at Philadelphia, do heartily approve thereof and ratify the same; and take this opportunity to express their most grateful sense of the good services of the worthy delegates from this Colony who attended said Congress: And, pursuant to the eleventh article of said agreement and association, make choice of the following gentlemen to be a committee for the purpose therein mentioned (viz.) Gold Sellick Silliman, Johnathan Sturges, Job Bartram, Andrew Rowland, Samuel Squier, Johnathan Bulkley, Elijah Abel, Increase Bradley, Eliphalet Thorp, Aaron Jennings, Benjamin Lacy, Daniel Wilson, Asariah Odell, David Hubbell, Zalmon Bradley, John Hubbell, Thomas Cable, Joseph Hanford, Stephen Gorham, Thaddeus Burr, Johnathan Lewis, David Dimon, John Wilson, Joseph Strong, Albert Sherwood, Moss Kent, Samuel Wakeman, John Squire, Ichabod Wheeler, Ebenezer Bartram, Johnathan Dimon, Jabes Hill, George Burr, Heseekiah Hubbell, Benjamin Wheeler, Joseph Hyde, Jeremiah Sherwood, Daniel Andrews, Heseekiah Bradley, Joseph Bradley, Ephraim Lyon, and John Allen.

“ Voted that any person or persons who shall directly or indirectly, with intent to dissuade, disunite or otherwise prevent us from strictly complying & conforming to said agreement & association, publish, or sell, or otherwise dispose of any books or pamphlets or publications in this town, directly tending thereto; such person or persons shall be dealt with & exposed in the same manner as is prescribed in said eleventh article for such person or persons as violate said agreement or association.

“ Voted that a County Congress be held to advise & consult on the most effectual measures to carry the said agreement & association into execution.

“ Voted that Gold Selleck Silliman, Jonathan Sturges, Andrew Rowland, Job Bartram & Thaddeus Burr be a committee of correspondence for this town. The same committee to attend the County Congress at such time & place as they shall appoint agreeable to the other towns in this county who shall adopt this measure.”†

The strictest economy was agreed upon by the Continental Congress in their Articles of Association, even to restricting funeral expenses.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., XIV, p. 347.

† Fairfield Town Records on Votes.

"That upon the death of any relative, or friend, none of us, or any of our families will go into any further mourning dress, than a black crepe ribbon on the arm or hat for gentlemen; & a black ribbon or necklace for ladies; & we will discontinue the giving of gloves & scarfs at funerals."

One of the greatest trials which the Sons of Liberty had to contend with was the opposition of the Tories to these patriotic resolutions. There were many people throughout the country who were bitterly opposed to any separation from the mother country. These men were watched and their acts and sayings reported to the authorities. There were people who delighted in burning such offensive partisans in effigy, riding them through the towns on a rail, with an occasional coat of tar and feathers, and pulling down Stamp Act officers' houses over their heads. But these acts were not sanctioned by the town authorities or by the General Assembly.

The taxable list of estates at Fairfield were £51,004 10s. 3d.

1775. At a session of Council held at Hartford, January 4th and 5th, it was voted to procure for the use of the colony three hundred barrels of gunpowder, fifteen tons of lead and sixty thousand good flints.\*

During the first week in February "seven half barrels of gunpowder which was being carried to New Haven was seized by one William Hubbard of Stamford. A body of Liberty lads headed by one Sergeant Bartram attacked the house of the collector of Stamford, took possession of the powder, & carried it off on horses to Fairfield. A party of thirty men from Hartford under Col. Wyllys marched to Fairfield, took possession of the powder & carried it to Hartford."†

When the County delegates were in session at Fairfield, March 11th, to ratify the resolutions of the Continental Congress, the following toasts were drunk by a party of gentlemen in that town: "Additions to Whigs; Subtraction to Tories; Multiplication to the Friends of Liberty, & Division to the enemies of America."‡

Negro slaves gave much cause for anxiety, and in several instances proved treacherous to their owners in order to gain their freedom.§

Governor Trumbull called a special session of the General Assembly

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XIV, p. 387.

† Rivington's Gazette.

‡ Rivington's Gazette.

§ The colored people of the colony entered fully into the spirit of the independence of their masters. They made preparations to form themselves into companies; but fearing they might go further and use their show of patriotism to free themselves, it was deemed advisable to discourage them.—Hinman's War of the Revolution, p. 31.

March 2d, at New Haven. Mr. Jonathan Sturges and Captain Samuel Squire represented Fairfield.

An act was passed requiring every naval officer in the colony to give a bond of one thousand dollars to the Governor, with two sureties for the faithful discharge of his trust, for receipts of duties on rum and other dutiable articles of goods and merchandise.

Ebenezer Burr was established lieutenant, and Ebenezer Hill ensign of the train-band of Greenfield, in the Fourth Regiment.\*

In February, Parliament declared that Massachusetts was in rebellion, and that an additional force be added to the 3,000 British troops already stationed there. This act and the blockaded harbor of Boston elicited the sympathy and generosity of all classes. "The Assembly voted to recommend the several towns in the Colony to cheerfully & liberally contribute to the relief of their suffering brethren—esteeming it an incumbent duty & an acceptable service in the sight of God & the country."

A letter was addressed by Governor Trumbull to the Earl of Dartmouth, one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, protesting against the course which Great Britain continued to pursue towards her American colonies:

—"that while disagreements existed by the severe measures of Parliament, that British Supremacy & American Liberty are not incompatible with each other, having existed & flourished together for more than a century; & that the unlimited power, lately claimed by the British Parliament, drove them to the borders of despair." He wrote of the great distress in which Boston had been placed by the Port-bill, where many thousands of his Majesty's subjects were "reduced to the utmost distress, & the whole province thrown into a state of anarchy & confusion by the Act changing the constitution of that province, & depriving them of some of their chartered rights; that if the act for shutting up their port was repealed, the armed forces withdrawn from Boston, & the people put upon a footing to act freely & constitutionally, he doubted not but that, as they have upon all former occasions shown themselves to be a generous, brave & loyal people, they would comply with any reasonable requisitions that should be made by his Majesty." It was further urged that Earl Dartmouth should give his serious attention to "the unhappy case of that distressed people, & in effect of all the colonies, whose fate seemed to be involved in theirs, & who are therefore most anxiously distressed for them." After this letter had been submitted to both houses, and that part left out in regard to the dutiful return of the Massachusetts people if their ports were opened, etc., it was unanimously approved, and a copy of it ordered to be sent to the Earl of Dartmouth.†

March 1st the Fishery bill was passed by Parliament, prohibiting the American colonies from carrying on any fisheries on the Banks of New

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 14, p. 398.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XIV, p. 410.



Foundland and other places under certain conditions and for a limited time, except whale fishery, which was to be continued until November. This act was largely prompted by the King.

It was in March that the Virginia legislature assembled to make preparations to organize an American army, to cooperate with the forces of the other colonies. Eloquent speeches were made and an oration by Patrick Henry thrilled his listeners with enthusiastic patriotism when he uttered those memorable words: "I know not what course others may take; but for me, give me liberty or give me death."

Active military preparations were taking place in every part of the country for the struggle, which now seemed inevitable, and *minute-men*, ready to defend the country, were prepared for immediate action. About 8,000 troops were assembled at Philadelphia, fully prepared for any emergency. Every eye and thought was turned toward Boston, where a plot had been set on foot by General Gage to seize upon the cannon, powder and ammunition which the patriots had secretly conveyed to Concord; and to secure as prisoners Samuel Adams and John Hancock. The affair was carried on with great secrecy. At eleven o'clock on the night of April 18th eight hundred men set out for Concord, but General Warren, having discovered the design of Gage, sent messengers by different routes to give the alarm. Paul Revere's Lantern, immortalized by Longfellow, was hung in the belfry of the North Church, which was seen by the people of Charlestown, who immediately sent out messengers of alarm, so that in a short time the British troops, under General Pittcairn, having reached Lexington, ten miles distant from Boston, found themselves assailed by every boy, youth and aged man in the vicinity, eager to strike the first blow for liberty. As brave as the spirit of the patriots was, they were forced to give way under British fire after a loss of several men. A number of British were also killed. The main body having now joined the British, they took up their march towards Concord. Another skirmish followed, the minute-men and inhabitants of the place having bravely met the enemy. Several men were killed on both sides, and although the British were reinforced by 1,000 men under Lord Percy, they were assailed all along the route to Charlestown by the yeomanry from forests, houses, sheds, trees and fences. Some of the British officers and their soldiers fell by the roadside under the well-directed aim of sharpshooters, well skilled in the use of firearms. By the time Charlestown was reached the British had 65 killed, 180 wounded



and 28 taken prisoners. The Americans lost 59 killed, 39 wounded and 5 missing.\*

Thus was fought the first battle of the *War of the American Revolution*. As fast as man and horse could travel, the news was heralded from town to town, and from colony to colony, until the whole country was aroused with patriotism. Men hurried from all quarters towards Boston. Within a few days an army of 16,000 men was gathered around Boston, and the siege of the oppressed city was begun. From Fairfield marched forth a brave band to the relief of their beleaguered friends. Their names deserve the highest record for patriotism, for they were among the first who set out to defend the homes of their kinsmen and countrymen.

"From the Town of Fairfield for the relief of Boston & Lexington, April, 1775:

Captain David Dimon  
Lieut. Peter Hendrick  
Lieut. Edward Bourroughs  
Ensign Wakeman Burr  
Sergeant Abijah Sterling  
Sergeant Aaron Hubbell  
Sergeant Ebenezer Wakeman, Clerk

*Privates.*

Israel Bibbins  
Andrew Wakeman  
Walter Buddington  
Isaac Burr  
Thomas Elwood  
Ebenezer Squire  
John Fuller  
Daniel Morris, Jr.  
Nathan Seeley  
Benjamin Hall  
Josiah Lacey  
Joseph Hubbell  
Isaac Hubbell

Isaac Jarvis  
Andrew Thorp  
Isaac Jennings  
David Annabel  
Daniel Wingfield  
Levi Mallery  
Paul Nichols  
Samuel Sherwood  
Judson Sturges  
Abijah Morehouse  
Joseph Squire  
William Jennings  
John Pearson  
Nehemiah Whitney  
Jonathan Darrow, Jr.  
Nathan Thorp  
Nathan Peet Jackson  
William Hubbell  
John Hayes  
Solomon Green  
Oriel Morehouse  
Zebulon Kirtland

*Captain Elijah Abel's Express to New Haven."*

"This company with a few changes also marched for the relief of New York, viz.:

David Dimon, Captain  
Peter Hendrick, Lieut.  
James Hambleton, Lieut.  
Wakeman Burr, Ensign.  
Albert Chapman, Sergeant  
John Mills, Sergeant  
John Odle, Sergeant

Aaron Hubbell, Sergeant  
Thomas Couch, Clerk

*Privates*

John Watson  
Judson Sturges  
Abijah Morehouse

\* Quackenbos, Hist. U. S. A., p. 205.

Thomas Elwood  
 Andrew Thorp  
 Isaac Jarvis  
 Nathan Thorp  
 William Jennings  
 Nehemiah Fowler  
 Isaac Burr  
 Israel Bibbins  
 Joseph Squire  
 Nehemiah Whitney  
 Josiah Jennings  
 Samuel Bradley  
 Nathan Bradley  
 Daniel Bament  
 Joseph Hayes  
 Joseph Stratton  
 Peter Winton

Moses Sturges  
 Shuball Gorham  
 Gideon Morehouse  
 Andrew Hendrick  
 John McKee  
 Joseph Green  
 Asael Disbrow  
 Ezekiel Canfield  
 Nathan Peet Jackson  
 James Knapp  
 John Hayes  
 John Pearson  
 Levi Mallery  
 Samuel Chard  
 Josiah Smith  
 William McCarthy  
 David Sturges." \*

Without orders, without a commander-in-chief and without time to make preparations, these brave men marched in a quick and orderly manner, all spontaneously moving as if by magic, from an earnest sense of sympathy and patriotism. The Connecticut and Rhode Island forces were under their own officers, who provided them with arms and rations. They were men of all ranks in life, sturdy farmers and merchants, as well as gentlemen's sons; all ready to obey the discipline of their officers.

Governor Trumbull called a special General Assembly to meet at Hartford, April 26th.

The act passed in October, requiring the officers of the several regiments in the colony to call their regiments to assemble for military exercises, on account of inconvenience, was repealed. An embargo was laid upon exports by water "until the 20th of May on wheat, rye, Indian corn, pork, beef, live cattle, pease, beans, bread, flour & every kind of meal, except necessary stores for vessels bound to sea."

Thaddeus Burr, Esq., of Fairfield, and Charles Church Chandler of Woodstock were appointed a committee, at the expense of the colony, to employ news-carriers to perform regular stages with all convenient speed to and from Fairfield and Woodstock, so as to arrive at Hartford every Saturday. Gurdon Saltonstall, Esq., of New London was appointed to the same duty to and from New London and Woodstock to New Haven in the Fairfield stage, to reach new London on Saturdays, and to forward all proper intelligence with convenient dispatch; and that

\* Record of Connecticut, Men of the War of the Revolution, pp. 10, 11.

each of them forward as speedily as possible all proper intelligence each way on Monday mornings.\*

A committee was appointed to supply and forward all necessary provisions to the forces who had gone to the relief of Boston and its vicinity. One-fourth of the militia was ordered to be called out and made ready for the special defence of the colony, subject to the orders of the Assembly. The enlisted men were to be formed into companies of one hundred men each, the companies to be formed into six regiments, to be commanded by one major general, assisted by two brigadier generals, each of which general officer should take command of a regiment as colonel; that each regiment be commanded by one colonel, a lieutenant-colonel and a major, each of which field officers should command a company as captain, and each general officer be assisted by two majors of his regiment, each company to be commanded by one captain, two lieutenants and one ensign; all duly commissioned by the Governor. There were also appointed for each regiment one adjutant, one quartermaster, one chaplain, one surgeon and two surgeon-mates, all to be employed not exceeding seven months. A premium of 52 shillings was offered and one month's pay in advance to each non-commissioned officer and individual upon their enlistment, each man supplying himself with a blanket, knapsack, clothing, etc., subject to the inspection of his captain. Each company was furnished with good firearms belonging to the Colony. Each soldier who should furnish his own firearms was allowed a premium of ten shillings. Where arms could not be furnished, they were ordered to be impressed from householders and other persons not on the militia roll; who were allowed a premium of ten shillings for their use, or loss in full value; any misuse of which was to be deducted from the wages of the person carrying them. "Three thousand stands of arms of the following dimensions, to wit: the length of the barrel three feet ten inches, the diameter of the bore from inside to inside three-quarters of an inch, the length of the blade of the bayonet fourteen inches, the length of the socket four inches & one-quarter, with iron ramrod, &c.; five hundred spades; five hundred pick-axes, three hundred narrow axes & five hundred tents" were ordered to be procured and held in readiness for the use of the colony. A particular account of all arms was to be taken and appraised by indifferent judges. Six pence a day was allowed each non-commissioned officer and citizen from the day of his enlistment for billeting until supplied from the colony stores. A form of commissioning officers and subalterns was agreed upon.†

Jonathan Trumbull was made "Captain-General & Governor-in-Chief over his Majesty's English Colonies of Connecticut in New England, in America." Officers were appointed to take command of all enlisted persons.‡

David Wooster was appointed Major-General, Joseph Spencer Brigadier-General, and Israel Putnam Second Brigadier-General of all the forces. Officers were appointed for each regiment. David Waterbury, Jr., was made colonel, Samuel Whiting lieutenant-colonel, Thomas Hobby major of the Fifth Regiment. David Dimon captain, Peter Hendrick

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XIV, p. 416.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 14, p. 419.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 14, p. 421.

first lieutenant, Ebenezer Hill, second lieutenant, and Wakeman Burr ensign of the fourth company in the Fifth Regiment. Hill resigned, and Wakeman Burr was promoted first lieutenant, Josiah Lacy ensign, Rev. Samuel Wood chaplain, John Wood surgeon, and Samuel Whiting surgeon's mate in this regiment. Captain Joseph Trumbull was made Commissary-General, and Samuel Squire of Fairfield one of the army commissaries. All of them were instructed to furnish as quickly as possible their different regiments with necessary provisions, etc.\*

Fifty thousand pounds in bills of credit were ordered to be printed, without interest, dated May 10, 1775, and payable on or before May 10, 1777, to redeem which a tax of seven pence on the pound was ordered to be levied on all the polls and taxable estates in the colony, to be collected from the October tax lists of 1775 and 1777.†

A committee was appointed to take charge of the powder for each county. Thaddeus Burr was chosen to care for twenty-eight half barrels of powder, to be sent from New London to Fairfield.‡

A committee was appointed to examine and make a report of the condition of the sea-coast, ports and defences of the colony, and to consider the best way of securing, defending and protecting them and the shipping.

Four regiments under Brigadier-Generals Spencer and Putnam and Colonels Hinman and Parsons were "to forthwith get into readiness & march forward to Boston, or such places near there, as they should be ordered."§

It was resolved by the Assembly that:

"Considering the dark & gloomy aspect of Divine Providence over this Colony & land, & that it is the indispensable duty of every people suffering under the afflictive chastisements of a righteous God, with deep repentance, supplication & amendment of life, to endeavour by all the ways which God has prescribed to avert his anger & incline him to become reconciled to his people; that it be recommended to all the ministers of the gospel in this Colony, that they earnestly endeavour to dissuade their several congregations from all excess, & all diversions which may be improper in the present day of distress; & that both they & their people cry mightily to God that he would be pleased to spare his people & be gracious unto them, & visit them with his loving kindness & tender mercies; & not give up his heritage to reproach, but preserve unto them their great & important rights & privileges, & guide & prosper the public councils of this Colony & land; & in this hour of difficulty & distress graciously manifest His power in the deliverance & salvation of His people, to the glory of His own name."||

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 14, p. 430.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 14, p. 432.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 14, p. 433.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XIV, p. 434.

|| Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 14, p. 434.



All debtors imprisoned for debt were released, and "the creditor allowed to take out an alias execution against the estates of such debtors."\*

Governor Trumbull addressed a strong letter April 25th to General Gage, disapproving his course at Boston, as it was well known that his rash measures to prevent the cause of the Sons of Liberty had hastened and increased their righteous indignation.

He "demanded to know to what end such hostile preparations were daily being made; if it was his intention to ravage & desolate the country; why these outrages had been committed; why the town of Boston was blockaded, & why they were constantly hearing of fresh destination of troops to this country." "The people of this Colony," the Governor wrote, "you may rely upon it, abhor the idea of taking up arms against the troops of their Sovereign, & dread nothing so much as the horrors of a civil war. But, Sir, at the same time, we beg leave to assure your Excellency that as they apprehended themselves justified by the principle of self-defence they are most firmly resolved to defend their rights & privileges to the last extremity, nor will they be restrained from giving aid to their brethren if any unjustifiable attack is made upon them. Be so good as to explain yourself? Is there no way to prevent this unhappy dispute from coming to extremities? Is there no alternative but absolute submission or the desolations of war? By that humanity which constitutes so amiable a part of your character, & for the honour of our Sovereign & the glory of the British Empire, we entreat you to prevent it if possible," etc.

General Gage in a haughty spirit of defiance denied the right of the colonies to question the acts of the British Parliament, or any usurpation of his control under its authority. Owing to the beleaguered condition of Boston by the armed force which had so suddenly surrounded that city, he hinted that he had reason to begin his warfare on seaports "who are at the mercy of the fleet." In fact, he declared himself "to be the defender of all his Majesty's oppressed subjects in America."†

The General Assembly held its usual session May 11th. Mr. Jonathan Sturges and Captain Samuel Squire represented Fairfield. Ebenezer Silliman was appointed for the last time Judge of the Probate Court of Fairfield.

An order was given for issuing fifty thousand pounds of bills of credit on the colony, *equal to lawful money*, dated June 1, 1775, and made payable June, 1778, to redeem which a tax of seven pence was levied on all polls and taxable estates in the colony on the list of October, 1776, with the additions to be paid into the treasury June, 1778.

The embargo laid upon several articles in April was extended until

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 14, p. 435.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XIV, pp. 440-444.

August. A large order was made for all sorts of army implements—tents, drums, fife and necessary apparatus. Each of the six regiments under orders were given six standards, to be distinguished by their color: the 1st regiment yellow, 2d green, 3d scarlet, 4th crimson, 5th white, and the 6th azure.

A premium of five shillings was offered for every stand of arms, and one shilling and sixpence for every good gun lock manufactured in the colony before October 20th. Committees were appointed to carry out these orders. A premium of ten pounds was also offered for every fifty pounds of saltpetre, and five pounds for every hundred pounds of sulphur manufactured in the colony within one year.\*

In passing laws for calling out troops to defend the country a most touching summary of what our ancestors had done for the colonies from the beginning was set forth by the Assembly, showing:

“How wisely they had governed the colonies; how parliament had recently usurped their chartered rights, by which the port of Boston had been closed; the charter of Massachusetts subverted & destroyed; the Roman Catholic religion established in the country; their fisheries proscribed to a limited degree; all petitions of redress scoffed at & treated with contempt by his Majesty’s ministers of State; the refusal to surrender our just rights, liberties & immunities have been styled Rebellion; & fleets & army sent into the neighboring Colony to force them into submission; & by acts of vengeance from the British troops, a standing army forced upon them; the peaceable inhabitants of Boston had been driven from their houses; that they had imbued their hands with the blood of our countrymen, which acts & relations tended to force & to terrify all the colonies into submission to Parliamentary taxation, by which: ‘Our liberties, our lives & property will become precarious & dependent upon the will of men over whom we can have no check or control’—‘religion, property, personal safety, learning, arts, public & private virtue, social happiness, & every blessing attendant on liberty will fall victim to the principles & measures advanced & pursued against us; whilst shameless vice, infidelity, irreligion, abject dependence, ignorance, superstition, meanness, servility & the whole train of despotism present themselves to our view in melancholy prospect.’ That the Colony of Connecticut having always & freely yielded to the British Parliament the regulation of our external commerce for British interests & benefit—excluding every idea of taxation for raising a revenue without our consent; that the colonies claimed only a right to regulate our internal police & government; & are most desirous of peace & deprecate the horrors of war; yet, while they see military preparations against them at hand, & the hopes of peace & harmony placed at a greater distance, being fully determined never to make a voluntary sacrifice of their rights, not knowing how soon parliament & ministerial vengeance may be directed against them immediately, as it is now against the Province of Massachusetts Bay, who are suffering in the common cause of British America, trusting in the justice of their cause & the righteous providence of Almighty God for the restoration of quiet & peace; or for success in their efforts for their defence, have thought it their duty to raise troops for the defence of their Colony.”†

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XV, pp. 14, 15.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 15, p. 18.

The Assembly then proceeded to make regulations for the government of the officers and troops, which included fifty-three Articles of War. "These articles were substantially the same as those adopted by the Massachusetts Provincial Congress April 15, 1775."\*

Having learned that a design had been formed by the British ministry to make an invasion from Quebec upon the northern colonies, by which the inhabitants residing in the vicinity of Ticonderoga would be exposed to various incursions, the Assembly, "impelled by a just regard for their own preservation," resolved to take possession of Ticonderoga and Crown Point, in which forts it was known that there was a large supply of cannon and military stores.†

This undertaking was successfully carried out. Ticonderoga was taken May 10th by Colonel Ethan Allen, Captain Seth Warner and Captain Baker, assisted by Benedict Arnold, with sixteen men from Connecticut, forty or fifty from Berkshire County, Mass., and about one hundred from Bennington, Vermont, without the loss of a man. Forty-seven British privates with their officers and families, were taken prisoners and sent to Hartford. Captain Seth Warner, assisted by Captain Baker, followed up this victory by taking Crown Point. By these victories a large quantity of cannon, small-arms and ball were taken, which proved of inestimable value, particularly during the siege of Boston.

It was resolved by the Assembly that as the officers and soldiers taken at Ticonderoga and Crown Point had been sent into Connecticut as prisoners of war, "the dictates of humanity required that they & their families should be provided for & supported while they remained in the Colony." A committee was appointed to take care of them and see "that they were treated with humanity, kindness & respect, according to their rank & station"; and to encourage them "to secure profitable labor from any one who would employ them, until the Continental Congress should dispose of them.

Thaddeus Burr, with Charles Church Chandler & Gurdon Saltonstall, were employed as News Carriers by stage to & from Fairfield to Woodstock; & from New London to New Haven on the Fairfield stage; & that they forward with all convenient dispatch each way all proper news, as well as 'all extraordinary intelligence.' "\*\*

A Council of War was appointed to assist Governor Trumbull when

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XV, pp. 22-31.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XV, p. 32.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XV, p. 32.

the Assembly was not in session in directing the marches and stations of the army and for the special defence of the colony. All commissions for officers, chaplains and surgeons were ordered dated May 1, 1775. It was voted to borrow five hundred pounds of powder from the adjacent towns to be sent to Ticonderoga and Crown Point with the utmost expedition, under the care of Colonel James Easton. Two hundred pounds was also granted Colonel Easton to defray the expenses of conveying the powder to Ticonderoga and to pay other necessary expenses.\*

Gold Sellick Silliman was appointed colonel of the Fourth Regiment of militia, in place of Colonel John Read resigned. John Sherwood was made captain, Samuel Seeley lieutenant, and Najah Bennett ensign of the twelfth company in the Fourth Regiment. Thaddeus Bennet was made captain, Edward Burroughs lieutenant and Abijah Sterling ensign of the third company of the Fourth Regiment.†

Messrs. Thaddeus Burr, Nathaniel Wales and Pierpont Edwards were appointed commissioners to attend the Provincial Congress of New Jersey and of New York, "to procure intelligence of the measures that might be adopted by them respecting the common cause of the British Colonies; to communicate to them the measures which had been taken by Connecticut, & to cultivate the friendship & harmony subsisting between those Provinces & this Colony." Messrs. Wales and Burr appeared before the New York Congress May 24th. Pierpont Edwards proceeded to Trenton May 29th.‡

"A letter dated May 1 from General Gage had fallen into the hands of the patriots of New York, from which it was discovered that a plot had been set on foot to seize the members of the Continental Congress & to take them as prisoners to England. In consequence every patriot was ready to defend the members of the approaching Congress. About 8000 troops assembled in Philadelphia fully armed & equipped for any emergency. On the 5 of May Benjamin Franklin arrived at Philadelphia from London. On the 6 the Connecticut delegates, the Honorables Eliphalet Dyer, Roger Sherman Esqr. & Silas Deane Esqr., having set out for the Congress, passed through Fairfield, & were met a few miles out of New York by a great number of the principal gentlemen of that city in carriages & on horseback, & escorted by them into the city, & by near a thousand men under arms. The roads were lined with a great number of people. Their arrival was announced by the ringing of bells & other demonstrations of joy. They had double sentries placed at the doors of their lodging houses."§

"On May 8th the eastern delegates were joined by those of New York & King's County & set out with them for Philadelphia, attended by a great train to the North

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XV, pp. 40-48.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 15, pp. 42, 45, 48.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 15, p. 83.

§ Rivington's Gazette. Frank Moore's Diary of American Revolution.



River Ferry, where two or three sloops & a number of other vessels were provided for them. About five hundred gentlemen & two hundred militia under arms crossed the Ferry with them." They reached Philadelphia "May 24, & were met six miles outside the city by the officers of all the military companies in the city, & many gentlemen on horseback, in all about five hundred. When within two miles of the city they were joined by a company of riflemen & infantry with a band of music, who conducted them through the principal streets of the city to their lodgings amid the acclamations of near fifteen thousand people."\*

The second Continental Congress assembled May 10th, at Philadelphia. Unwilling to enter into war, and hoping that a peaceable settlement might yet be made with Great Britain, the first action of this Congress was "That while raising the sword in one hand, to extend the olive branch with the other"; to address a loyal and earnest appeal to the King, as well as to Parliament, assuring both that if their wrongs were redressed "they were willing to forget the sufferings & oppression to which they had been subjected."

Having done all that men of high-minded, conscientious and patriotic lovers of right and of independence and sound judgment could offer, they proceeded to place the country in an attitude of defence; to organize an army and to appoint military officers.

On the 15th of June Colonel George Washington was appointed by the united voice of the Congress "Commander-in-chief of the army already raised & to be raised for the defence of the American liberties." Artemus Ward of Massachusetts Bay, Charles Lee of Virginia, Philip Schuyler of Albany, New York, and Israel Putnam of Connecticut were appointed major-generals, and ten brigadier-generals, among whom were Gates, Green, Montgomery and Sullivan.

Three million pounds in bills of credit were ordered to be issued.

While this important congress was in session Governor Trumbull and his committee of war and of safety met at Lebanon, June 7th, and gave orders for supplies and fifty pounds of powder to be sent forward to the Connecticut troops at the camp near Boston under Brigadier-Generals Spencer and Putnam.†

A gun-lock invented by Uri Hanks of Mansfield was accepted, and an order for fifty was given, to be quickly made.‡

News of the battle of Breeds and Bunker Hill reached the Governor

\* Frank Moore's *Diary of American Revolution*, p. 36. *Holt's Journal*, *Pennsylvania Journal*, and *Virginia Gazette*.

† *Col. Rec. Conn.*, Vol. 15, p. 84.

‡ *Col. Rec. Conn.*, Vol. 15, p. 87.

on the evening of June 18th, who, with his war committee, ordered tents and clothing already purchased to be forwarded immediately, and that the poor tent-makers from Boston be employed to make enough for General Putnam's regiment. The powder also sent from New York and lodged at Stamford was ordered to be dispatched to Boston.\*

The Battle of Breeds Hill and of Bunker Hill was largely sustained by the Connecticut forces stationed on Prospect Hill under Generals Putnam and Spencer. They had been warned by sentries stationed on Winter Hill of the advance of the British. General Putnam without a moment's delay set out to reinforce the colonial forces on Bunker Hill, who fought with fierce courage until their ammunition gave out. So terrible was this battle that General Howe remarked: "I never saw or heard of such a carnage in so short a time."†

Meanwhile the Province of New York had requested Governor Trumbull to send a sufficient force to hold Crown Point and Ticonderoga until they could raise forces for that purpose.

A London writer remarked: "Though the American soldiery may not be so well disciplined as the King's troops, yet it must be considered there is a very considerable difference between a man who is fighting for his natural liberty & the man who fights because he is paid. The former defends himself in a just cause, the latter is the mere dupe of power. The former is animated by the zeal of his attachment to the public weal, the latter has no attachments at all, except to his pay for slaughter & blood-shed."‡

The battle of Bunker Hill served to convince General Gage and his officers that while the colonial forces were without the discipline or equipment of a long standing army, they were as brave as young eagles defending their homes, their country and their liberty.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 15, p. 87.

† When the British landed on the morning of June 17th, they saw the New England flag floating over their entrenchments raised during the night, which consisted of a white field with a green pine-tree in the centre, denoting the sturdy character of the New England people. When General Putnam marched from Prospect Hill to meet the advancing columns of the British he raised the crimson flag of the Connecticut Fourth Regiment. "Shortly before this he had been presented with a crimson flag bearing the motto on one side: '*An Appeal to Heaven*,' and on the reverse side: '*Qui Transtulit Sustinet*' (*He who transplanted will sustain us*)." This banner was used by the Connecticut forces after the Battle of Lexington when driving the British out of Boston. "In Trumbull's celebrated picture of the Battle of Bunker Hill, it appears that Putnam had placed upon the old red flag, in place of the British Union, the first flag of the Massachusetts cruisers, a white field with a pine tree in the centre."—Our Flag, by A. N. Whitmarsh, M. A.

‡ Moore's Diary of the American Revolution.

Governor Trumbull and his committee of war remained at Lebanon awaiting further news from Boston. On June 20th they ordered "General Wooster to send two of his companies to New London, and march with his remaining seven companies & all of Col. Waterbury's regiment to within five miles of New York (they expecting the arrival of British troops) & be under the direction of the General & Provincial Congress."

General Washington and General Lee set out on June 23d from Philadelphia to take command of the American army at Massachusetts Bay. "They were accompanied into New York by nine companies of foot & a great number of gentlemen." All along their journey they were met with acclamations of hearty welcome by the people. They were entertained at the hospitable mansion of the Hon. Thaddeus Burr while passing through Fairfield. The Rev. Dr. Ripley of Green's Farms joined Washington and escorted him as far as Stratford.

The next day, June 24th, General Tryon arrived in New York from London, and was warmly welcomed by the Tories of that city.

On the same day General Wooster, with his seven companies and Colonel Waterbury's entire regiment, in all about eighteen hundred men, reached their post near New York. In these companies were Captains David Dimon and John Sherwood, Lieutenant Samuel Seeley, besides some of the troops raised in Stratfield, Greenfield, Norfield, Green's Farms and Reading. From every parish of Fairfield, men and boys of over fourteen, eagerly filled the ranks of each company under commissioned and non-commissioned officers. Coast guards along Long Island Sound from the Pequonnock River to the western limits of the Saugatuck paced their nightly round of duty, watching for the enemy, foraging for live stock, provision or grain. Yet while thus guarding their coast, the eyes of all Fairfield were turned towards Boston in the terrible ordeal which their relatives and friends in that city had and were still passing through, and receiving in heartfelt delight those who had escaped to them for refuge. Grain of all kinds was prepared by the mills on Mill River, the Saugatuck and Aspetuck for the use of the army. The Penfield Mills not only ground grain, but baked large supplies of bread, which was forwarded to our troops, as well as to the other troops and the inhabitants of Boston. The blacksmiths repaired gun-locks, and with the jewelers and private families moulded shot and balls, of which there was a great scarcity. The spirit of independence pervaded the

life of the patriotic women of Fairfield, for around the besieged city of Boston many of their sons were fighting the enemy of their peace with unrelenting bravery. The spirit of devotion to the cause in which their husbands and sons had engaged had kindled each true woman's heart with a lofty purpose to render every possible assistance to further the cause of independence. Early and late their carding and spinning-wheel furnished long hanks of dyed blue, red and gray yarn, linen, homespun cloth, blankets, tow-cloth, nankeen, knitted stockings and mittens for their soldier lads. From Black Rock harbor, Stratfield, Mill River and Saugatuck issued privateers and boats to seize the enemy's vessels on the Sound, and to capture their foraging boatmen. Tory sympathizers with the British were closely watched, and threats of no mild character used towards them. So great had been the drain of troops from the town for Boston and New York that there was left but a poor defence in case of attack.

On the 1st of July the General Assembly met at Hartford. Two more regiments, consisting of fourteen hundred men of ten companies each, exclusive of commissioned officers, were ordered to be enlisted and equipped for the defence of the colony.\*

Dr. Francis Forgue of Fairfield was commissioned surgeon of the new Seventh Regiment, and Ebenezer Beardslee and Isaac Swift surgeon's-mates:†

It was resolved that "two vessels should be fitted out & armed with a proper number of cannon, swivel-guns & small arms, & furnished with necessary warlike stores, well officered and manned, for the defence of the sea-coast."‡

On the 6th of July the Continental Congress issued an able manifesto, giving reasons for taking up arms. A line of posts for the furtherance of communications and intelligence was given to the superintendence of Benjamin Franklin, which line of mile-stones are still to be seen on the old post road through Fairfield. The danger of sending provisions and ammunition by water made this provision necessary.§

The Congress also decided to make an attack upon Canada. They were aware that large stores of ammunition had been collected at Quebec, of which the colonies were in great need, and it was hoped the Canadians

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 15, p. 93.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 15, p. 94.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 15, p. 99.

§ Quackenbos, Hist. U. S. A., p. 215. Appendix—Post Roads.



would join the colonies in resisting British aggression. An army was, therefore, ordered to be prepared and placed under the command of General Montgomery. None of the troops to be raised were to be distinguished as the troops of any one particular colony, but as the forces of "The United Colonies of North America," to be paid and supported accordingly. Georgia, which had not at first joined the union of the other colonies, decided on the 15th of July to do so, and sent five delegates to Congress, one of whom was Lyman Hall, who had removed from Stratfield in 1752 to South Carolina, and afterwards to the parish of St. Johns, belonging to the colony of Georgia. Thus were all the colonies united in one common cause.

Forty half barrels of powder were ordered by the direction of Congress to be forwarded out of the stores of New Haven and Fairfield. Governor Trumbull and his war council also readily responded to the demands of Congress, and ordered fifteen thousand pounds in bills of credit to be loaned and delivered to Walter Livingston at the request of General Schuyler.\* Fifty thousand more bills of credit were ordered to be printed, dated July, 1775, and payable December, 1779, to redeem which a tax of seven pence on the pound was levied on all polls and taxable estates in the colony.†

Provisions were for a short time allowed to be purchased in the counties of Litchfield and Fairfield and sent to General Schuyler, but the drain became so great that an embargo was laid soon after upon grain and provisions for the relief of the towns. Every available piece of lead was secured for making bullets and shot. By order of General Washington, Governor Trumbull was requested to furnish all the tow-cloth to be had, "to make shirts or short coats for a uniform dress for the army, &c., & to send a sample made up with a cape, ruffles, &c." Accordingly, "the commissaries in the colony received orders to purchase all the tow-cloth they can procure."‡

While Fairfield was liberally furnishing her share of provisions, stores and clothing, and forwarding them for the troops gathered around Boston, and to Albany for the invasion of Canada, an event of a far happier character had been arranged to take place at the home of the Hon. Thaddeus Burr. Miss Dorothy Quincy, a daughter of Edmund Quincy, Esq., of Boston, during the siege of that city, had been sent to the pro-

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XV, pp. 100, 101.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 15, p. 101.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 15, p. 115.

tection of Mr. Burr. The Hon. John Hancock, although president of the Continental Congress, found time to turn from his duties and to repair to Mr. Burr's mansion to claim his promised bride. In the evening of the 24th of August Mr. Hancock and Miss Dorothy Quincy, in the presence of a large assembly of their friends and relatives, were married by the Rev. Andrew Elliot.\*

Connecticut having sent into the field more men and money than her just proportion to the other colonies, made a demand in September on the Continental Congress for the sums of fifteen thousand pounds lawful money, and fifty thousand in bills of credit loaned to General Schuyler by order of Congress. They sent agents to Philadelphia to collect it, which money was paid into the treasury at Hartford in October and November in Continental money.†

Meanwhile General Washington, from the time of his arrival in Boston, had found a large body of patriotic but undisciplined troops, which he set about drilling and equipping for active service. He found that willing hearts made obedient soldiers, and in a short time his heart was cheered by a well-disciplined army. On September 14th he sent a peremptory order that all the remainder of the last raised troops in Connecticut be forthwith sent to his camp near Boston. Although Governor Trumbull and his council thought it imprudent to draw off so many men at this time, who were engaged in throwing up works and defences on the Sound coast, the troops were given orders to march without delay to General Washington's camp. Fifty other men were enlisted and equipped to take their places and to continue fortifying the coast against the attacks of the enemy, who were hovering about and had given much trouble by "furiously bombarding Stonington."‡

The General Assembly met at Hartford on the 11th of October. They proceeded to lay an embargo on the exportation of grain, vegetables, live stock, etc., sent out of the colony until June, except by order of the Governor for necessary purposes.

Having been favored by three thousand stands of arms manufactured in the colony, further orders were issued for all that could be manufactured.§

One hundred and fifty pounds in Continental money was ordered to be sent to the infirm and sick soldiers at Fort Ticonderoga and vicinity.

\* Fairfield Christ Church Parish Records.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 15, p. 128.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 15, p. 125.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 15, p. 137.

Provision was also made for the support of prisoners of war sent into Connecticut.

Judge Ebenezer Silliman died October 11, 1775, in the sixty-eighth year of his age. His handsome tombstone in Burial Hill Cemetery mentions his upright Christian character, and his distinguished career as an Assistant and Senator of the General Assembly for many years, Judge of the Superior Court, a member of the Council of War, and of other high offices of trust in the colony of Connecticut.

Jonathan Sturges was appointed to succeed Judge Ebenezer Silliman, deceased, in the Probate Office at Fairfield.\*

Captains Stephen Thorp, Increase Bradly and Peter Whitney, owners of sloops at Fairfield, were given liberty to sail to Massachusetts with their sloops loaded with rye, Indian corn and rye flour, to be delivered at Falmouth, Machias or Sheepsct, provided they each gave a bond of £500 for the faithful discharge of their cargoes.†

Constant demands were made through the Assembly upon the towns in Connecticut from Massachusetts and New York for money, army supplies, care of prisoners and every possible assistance they could render. Many of the governors of the other provinces had either abandoned their posts or favored and coöperated with the enemy, and in a measure changed their form of government, but Connecticut and Rhode Island retained their old chartered mode of government. At a later date the other colonies retained their chartered form of polity modified, and "rendered necessary for the transition from a state of partial to one of total independence." To call on Jonathan Trumbull for advice, money or supplies from Connecticut for all emergencies became constant, so that the oft-repeated saying of Washington, "We will see what Brother Jonathan will do," fixed upon the Governor the soubriquet of "Brother Jonathan."

The expedition against Canada was set on foot in August. "Generals Schuyler & Montgomery with a small body of troops made their way to Montreal by way of Lake Champlain. About a thousand men under Colonel Arnold from the camp at Boston ascended the Kennebec river, and after enduring great hardships and privations through a trackless wilderness, they at last reached the shores of the St. Lawrence, opposite Quebec. St. John's had been besieged and captured November 3d by

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 15, p. 147. See Hist. Fairfield Vol. I, p. 407.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 15, p. 170.

Montgomery's forces, General Schuyler having been taken ill. Montreal surrendered to Montgomery without resistance. The two armies met December 31st, and resolved to attack Quebec as soon as possible. In about three weeks, during a blinding snow storm, they seized upon the lower town and attempted to carry the heights by assault, but were driven back by the British cannon. Montgomery, who bravely led a division, was killed while attempting to scale the heights. Arnold had a leg broken, and with about six hundred men retreated a few miles up the river, where he kept up a blockade of Quebec during the winter. Colonel Aaron Burr, then but nineteen years of age, was one of the heroes of this expedition, and gained the admiration of every one by his courage and power of endurance.\* Among the other sons of Fairfield was Colonel David Dimon and his young son Ebenezer Dimon.†

The time of many of the men who had enlisted had expired, and although urged to remain in the army some insisted upon returning home. Thus the country was obliged to call for raw recruits to fill the ranks of well-disciplined troops.

The General Assembly met at New Haven, December 14th, and proceeded to raise "a body of Minute Men for the defence of this & the rest of the United Colonies."‡

A bounty of ten pounds was offered for every hundred pounds of saltpetre or nitre manufactured in the colony before January, 1777. Every town was ordered to set up and carry on the manufacture of nitre or saltpetre, and the selectmen of each town were commanded to see that such works were erected and the manufactories sustained. A premium of thirty pounds was offered to the first and second person who should erect the first powder-mills in the colony and manufacture five hundred pounds of powder. These powder mills were only allowed to be erected by an order of the General Assembly.§

A stringent law was passed against persons found to be rendering assistance of any kind to the enemy, "either by furnishing navy or army stores, enlisting in the service of the British, giving information to them or piloting their vessels," under a penalty of forfeiting their estates, and

\* The adventures and hardships of this expedition are graphically described in Parton's *Life of Aaron Burr*. Special mention is made of Colonel Burr at this time. In an interview a few years after with a Mrs. Benson of Fairfield, Colonel Burr related to her the fact that he was born in Fairfield while his mother was visiting Mr. Isaac Burr, a near relative, during the summer.

† Appendix—Dimon, *Genealogical*.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 15, p. 187.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 15, p. 190.



by imprisonment in any of the jails in the colony for three years. Any overt act, speaking or writing of a libelous character against the Honorable Congress of the United Colonies, was punished by disarming such persons, rendering them incapable of holding civil or military offices, and further punished by fine, imprisonment or disfranchisement, as well as to pay the cost of being tried before the General Assembly. The selectmen and committee of inspection in each town were required to carry out these acts, and after seizing upon the estates of such offenders to improve them, and render the rents and profits to the colony treasury. Deserters from the army were ordered to be seized, imprisoned or returned to their companies. For harboring deserters a fine was imposed of fifteen pounds. Non-commissioned officers and soldiers who faithfully discharged their duty for the year 1775 and 1776 were released from paying poll taxes.\*

During the fall General Gage had ordered British men-of-war to harass and ravage the coast towns of New England. He was soon after superseded by Sir William Howe, who took command of the forces in and around Boston. Governor Tryon used every possible persuasion, threat and bribe to induce the Province of New York to remain loyal to the King, but the Continental Congress immediately passed laws making it a punishable crime to render any assistance to the British.

To meet this emergency Governor Trumbull and his Council of War and Safety ordered vessels and four row-galleys to be purchased or built, manned and equipped for the coast defences. It was agreed that all the principal towns from Groton to Milford should be supplied with cannon and military stores; but as yet Fairfield was overlooked. Coast-guards were, however, daily and nightly appointed in Fairfield to watch the approach of vessels or boats. Green's Farms, Greenfield, Norfield, Redding, Stratfield and Fairfield all furnished men from their companies for this duty. Vessels and boats were manned and armed for any attack which might be made.

Ephraim Middlebrook was appointed lieutenant and David Nichols ensign of the tenth company in the Fourth Regiment.†

The estates of Fairfield this year were valued at £51,472.

1776. On the 27th of January the Governor and Council of War, by order of Congress, raised a battalion to reinforce the northern army. Captain Samuel Squire, commissary of Fairfield, applied to the Council for

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 15, p. 192.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 15, p. 206.

directions and orders for money necessary to make provisions for the march and support of the men raised to aid General Lee in his expedition to New York, and was granted five hundred pounds to make provision for that purpose.\*

Cannon and cannon ball having been cast by Mr. Richard Smith of Salisbury; the Governor and Council ordered that every necessary material for promoting their manufacture should be provided.

On February 16th letters from Colonel Gold Sellick Silliman and Mr. Thaddeus Burr were read before the Council, setting forth "the exposed situation & necessary defence of the Fairfield harbor at Black-rock, *the second best in the colony*; & requesting cannon-ball, etc.; & at least twenty-five men to be raised, & sundry things."

"*It is voted, allowed & ordered* that twenty-five able-bodied men be raised by volunteer enlistment at the discretion of the authorities & selectmen of said town, under the command of a lieutenant & two sergeants, be improved in erecting works of defence at such place & manner in said town as the said authorities, &c., shall direct, for watching, &c., as shall be necessary, to continue until the first day of November next, unless sooner released by the General Assembly of this board; to have the same pay & wages as the army near Boston, & to be allowed 8d. per day for their provision & support during said term." This fortification was called Fort Black Rock, and was situated on *Grover's Hill*, which commanded from a high point of rocks and land at the mouth of Black Rock harbor a magnificent view of Long Island Sound.†

By letter, General Washington was requested to replace the four tons of powder loaned from Connecticut, one ton of which was to be sent to Fairfield.

On the 24th of February the Governor and Council appointed Ebenezer Bartram of Fairfield to be first lieutenant, under Captain Harding of New Haven, of the brig "Defence."‡

Throughout the country every eye was still turned towards Boston in daily expectation of an engagement. General Washington, while using every energy and means to be prepared for an attack, and strongly urged by Congress to do so, wisely refrained from offering battle for want of ammunition and other necessities. On the 4th of March, however, he dispatched General Thomas by night to throw up intrenchments on Dorchester Heights, which commanded the city and harbor. Though the ground was frozen the soldiers made rapid progress in their work, and on the following morning Sir William Howe saw to his astonish-

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 15, p. 232.

† Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 241.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XV, pp. 242, 245.

ment the work which the American soldiers had accomplished in a single night. He resolved to dislodge them without delay, but a severe snow-storm set in, lasting for two days, giving the ardent workers time to strengthen their fortifications. Believing it to be impossible to hold the city, on the 17th of March Lord Howe evacuated Boston, carrying with him his entire land and naval force, with about fifteen hundred loyalists. Great was the rejoicing of the Bostonians and of the defenders of American liberty throughout the country. Congress passed a vote of thanks to General Washington and his army, and ordered a gold medal to be struck off in commemoration of this joyous and gratifying event.

Strong fears were entertained that Lord Howe would sail with his fleet for New York, but he sailed for Halifax to await the arrival of reinforcements.

Meanwhile Governor Trumbull and his Council of War and Safety, fearing an attack upon New York, which might "in its consequences determine the fate of America," decided to give immediate orders to the commanding officers of seven Connecticut regiments to assemble 360 men from each of the *Fourth* and Ninth Regiments, and 180 from the Sixteenth, to be formed into one regiment consisting of ten companies of ninety men each, including officers, to be placed under the command of Colonel Gold Sellick Silliman, Lieutenant John Mead and Major John Chandler, and such other officers as the field officers of the several regiments from which they were to be drafted should appoint. Another battalion, under the command of Colonel Mathew Talcott, from four other regiments was ordered out, consisting of ten companies of ninety men each, with their respective commanders and officers. Both regiments were ordered to proceed without delay by land or by water to New York, and be placed under the commander-in-chief there, and then under General Washington, when he should arrive with his forces. Captain Samuel Squire of Fairfield with Jonathan Fitch were appointed to make proper provisions for their march and subsistence, either by land or by water.\*

John Mills was appointed lieutenant of the troops employed for the defence of the fortifications at Fairfield. Samuel Smedley was appointed lieutenant of marines on board the brig "Defence."†

The Governor and Council of War set on foot every possible effort to secure cannon, ammunition, duck and cordage for rigging the new

\* Col. Rec. Conn., XV, pp. 249-251.

† Col. Rec. Conn., XV, p. 254.



vessels of war. Every regiment was made ready for any emergency, to march on the shortest notice for the relief of the colony or any of the neighboring provinces.

Captain Ebenezer Bartram was given orders to receive and to deliver to Captain Seth Harding of the brig "Defence" eight swivel guns, fifteen hundred pounds of powder and four hundred swivel shot, with one hundred of the six-pound shot belonging to the colony.

The commission of Ebenezer Bartram as lieutenant bears date March 3, 1776. Samuel Smedley as second lieutenant, March 10, 1776, and Joseph Squire as lieutenant of marines for the ship "Defence," was ordered dated April 10, 1776. Orders were given for the "Defence" to proceed to Stamford to enlist men, to take in shot at New Haven and to sail with all convenient speed for New London, and there to enlist as many men as were needed to fill the number to one hundred and fifty.\* Thaddeus Burr, Esq., and Major David Dimon were two of a committee of four to be "furnished with five hundred pounds of powder to send out an armed vessel against the enemy.†

Each of the row-galleys were provided with twenty lances and poles and twenty tomahawks or hatchets.‡

Intelligence was brought to Governor Trumbull "of the arrival in America of seventeen hundred Hessians, Waldecks & Hanoverians from Germany, hired out to England for the purpose of pulling down the rebellion in America." This proceeding served only to further exasperate the colonies. The Governor and his Council no longer hesitated to entertain hope of an entire separation from Great Britain. Further orders were issued for enlisting and equipping men as speedily as possible, to be placed under orders from General Washington.

General Washington arrived in New York April 4th, and finding it impossible to maintain an efficient army on short terms of service which were constantly expiring, induced Congress to allow him to enlist officers and men for three years, giving a bounty of ten dollars to each recruit. The fortifications along the coasts of New York supervised by General Lee, largely assisted by the Connecticut forces, in which Fairfield bore its proportion, had been completed. Defensive works were also erected on Long Island opposite New York. The American forces in New York now numbered about twenty-seven thousand men.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 259.

† Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 262.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 15, p. 263.



The first act of General Howe, according to his instructions, was to issue a proclamation offering pardon to all who would return to their allegiance to the King. Upon this proclamation being presented to General Washington, he replied that "He had heard that General Howe was empowered to grant pardons; but, as those who were guilty of no fault needed no pardon, he did not see the necessity of any communication."

The General Assembly met at Hartford, May 9th. Mr. Samuel Squire and Mr. Thaddeus Burr represented Fairfield. Jonathan Sturges was appointed Judge of the Probate Court of Fairfield.

All the troops of horse belonging to the several regiments were ordered to be formed into five distinct regiments of light horse. A body of minute-men was ordered to be raised and equipped for the defence of the colony.\*

Benjamin Hinman was appointed colonel, Philip Burr Bradley lieutenant-colonel and David Dimon major "of one of the regiments about to be raised."†

Orders were given to print sixty thousand pounds in bills of credit on the colony, dated June, 1776, without interest made payable on or before January 1, 1781, to redeem which a tax of 8*d.* on the pound was levied on all polls and ratable estates, according to the list of 1778, to be paid into the colony treasury December, 1780.‡

Special forms of commissions for "The Governor & Company of the English Colony of Connecticut in New England in America" were presented and established for future use.§

By an order of John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress, it was resolved by the Assembly that the selectmen of each town in the colony, on or before the 1st of September, should render to Governor Trumbull an exact account of all persons, whites, colored and slaves, and to distinguish the number of those under the age of twenty and above that age, whether married or single, those in the militia, all able-bodied men not belonging to the militia and all men in actual service. ||

In order to support the credit of Connecticut, the Assembly also resolved, "That the treasurer of this Colony may & is hereby directed to receive the paper-bills of the Continental currency, when offered in pay-

\* Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 284.

† Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 300.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 15, p. 306.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 15, p. 307.

|| Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. 15, p. 313.

ment of Colony taxes, or any debt payable to the treasurer of the Colony, until otherwise instructed by this Assembly.”\*

Captain Samuel Squire was appointed one of a committee to purchase five thousand pair of yarn stockings, to be sent to the Governor of New York for the use of the army in Canada.†

In addition to the premium of one shilling and sixpence for gunlocks, a further premium of two shillings and sixpence was offered “for each double bridled, good, & well made gun-lock manufactured in the Colony between June & the 20th of October.”

The Governor was given power during the session of the Assembly, “to fill up blank commissions for privateers of War, & Letters of Marque & Reprisal, agreeable to the resolutions of the Continental Congress.”‡

Mr. Thaddeus Burr was appointed one of a committee to procure eighteen hundred pounds of lawful money in specie in exchange for bills to be used in the northern army by request of Congress; the repayment of which was to be in continental money. Mr. Burr was also appointed to collect postage money from all the postmasters from Hartford to Greenwich on the road to New York, between June 15th and November 15th, 1775, and render an account of the same to the treasurer of the Colony.§

Eliphalet Thorp was made captain, Samuel Penfield lieutenant, and Daniel Dimon ensign of the fourth company in the Fourth Regiment. Beach Tomlinson was made captain, Ephraim Curtiss lieutenant, and John Judson ensign of the seventh company in the Fourth Regiment.¶

Phineas Beardsley was commissioned captain, Peter Penfield lieutenant and Gideon Beardsley ensign of the sixth company in the Sixteenth Regiment.

Liberty was given Robert Fairchild and his associates to erect a powder mill at Stratford.¶

The Assembly, fully alive to the perils of the colonists, now “being threatened with the whole force of Great Britain, united with all such foreign mercenaries as they are able to engage—to burn & destroy our seaport towns, & to spread rapine & destruction through the whole country—earnestly recommend that all persons of every rank & denomination furnish themselves, with all possible expedition, with good & sufficient fire-arms, & other war-like accoutrements, & with bullets to fit their guns; that all able-bodied men, not of the standing militia, & those who had been dismissed from common

\* Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XV, 313.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XV, 318.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 341, 343.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XV, 317.

¶ Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 327.

¶ Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 350.

military exercises, form themselves into companies, choose their officers & equip themselves, so as to be in readiness for mutual defence against the enemy; that all field-officers place themselves in readiness to lead their respective corps on the most sudden call, in the meantime using their utmost endeavors with the assistance of the commissioned officers in their respective regiments to encourage military skill & every warlike preparation, & to see that all defective arms be immediately repaired." The committee appointed to procure firearms made in the colony were ordered "to purchase all good arms to be obtained."

The Assembly adopted the following most earnest resolutions to be printed and read in every Society in the Colony: "That as the events of this year may prove most decisive to these colonies, & that all human care, efforts & exertions are but fruitless attempts for our security & defence, & will prove vain & abortive unless attended with the blessing of Heaven, which we have no reason to expect but on a sincere repentance & reformation: Wherefore in this day of darkness & threatening calamity it is most earnestly recommended to & pressed upon all persons of every rank & denomination in this Colony to promote & cultivate charity & benevolence one towards another, to abstain from every species of extortion & oppression, sincerely to repent & break off from every sin, folly & vice, to live together in peace, love & harmony among themselves, to look up with earnest importunity to Heaven for help, success, salvation & deliverance, & with careful attention to the use of means, hope & trust in the Lord of Hosts, who presides over universal nature, guides & governs all, & we not fear or be dismayed at all the attempts or numerous hosts with which we are threatened."\*

This appeal to the citizens of the colony was ordered to be printed, read and published in all religious societies in the colony.

These instructions were made to appear most necessary at Fairfield at this time. "About the 8th of May it was discovered that one Cable had sent a vessel load of provisions to the ministerial plunderers, & was loading a second time for the same purpose; but was discovered by a Tory concerned in the affair, who made oath before one of the Fairfield town magistrates of the scheme in agitation. Cable had been observed to be sounding in deep waters about the channel of Black Rock, through which place he was to pilot a gang of miscreants, chiefly from Newtown, Connecticut, & Dobbs Ferry on the North River, whose orders were to massacre men, women & children. The signal for their time of landing was to be three cannon fired in the night." Cable was arrested without delay and confined in Fairfield jail.†

At a meeting of the Governor and Council of War and Safety, June 6th, at Hartford, it was decided to furnish and man three new row-galleys with fifty men, each to consist of one captain, two lieutenants, one master, one gunner and mate, one steward, two sergeants of marines, two corporals of marines, one boatswain, one drummer, one fifer,

\* Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 398.

† Moore's Diary of the American Revolution, p. 240.



one cook, one carpenter's mate, one surgeon or mate, besides able seamen and marines.\*

The General Assembly met at Hartford, June 14th. An embargo was immediately placed on all grains, beef, pork, live cattle, butter, cheese, flour and every kind of meal, either by land or water, without consent of the Governor, except necessary stores for vessels bound to sea.

After making a summary of the grievances of the colony, and a solemn protest against the impositions of the King and Parliament, it was :

*"Resolved unanimously by this Assembly, That the Delegates of this Colony in General Congress be & they are hereby instructed to propose to that respectable body to declare the United American Colonies Free & Independent States, absolved from all allegiance to the King of Great Britain, & to give the assent of this Colony to such declaration when they shall judge it expedient & best, & to whatever measures may be thought proper & necessary by the Congress for forming foreign alliances, or any plan of operation for necessary & mutual defence. And also, that they move & promote, as fast as may be convenient, a regular & permanent Plan of Union & Confederation of the Colonies for the security & preservation of their just rights & liberties & for mutual defence & security: saving that the administration of government & the power of forming governments for & the regulation of the internal concerns & police of each Colony, ought to be left & remain to the respective Colonial Legislatures; & also, that such plan of confederation be laid before such respective legislatures for their previous consideration & assent."* †

The delegates of the Continental Congress were instructed by both houses of the Assembly, June 15th, to move said Congress to declare the United Colonies Independent States, and to prepare Articles of Confederation and Union, and to give the assent of this colony to such declarations.‡

It now became necessary to adopt a National Standard; and for this purpose Benjamin Franklin and Messrs. Harrison and Lynch were chosen by the Colonial Congress as a committee to create a National Flag. Not yet having attained to the freedom of States, they held that they were still under the sovereignty of England. They, therefore, thought it expedient for a time to adopt the King's colors as a union, which consisted of a union of the crosses of St. George and St. Andrew on a blue field, extending from which were thirteen alternate stripes of red and white, representing the thirteen united colonies. This flag was first raised January 2, 1776, by General Washington at his headquarters at Cambridge, Mass., and received a salute of thirteen guns and thirteen

\* Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 408.

† Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 415.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 416.



cheers. It was called The Flag of the Union or The Cambridge Flag. In New England the *Pine Tree* was usually shown in the inner square of the British Union, quartered by a red cross on a blue or white field. The first flag of the floating batteries was a white field with a pine tree in the centre. The first vessel over which the Union flag floated was the frigate "Alfred," whose gallant commander was the famous Paul Jones. He also used the yellow flag of the south, displaying the coiled rattlesnake, with the motto, "Don't tread on me." His unparalleled exploits and success under this flag won for it the distinction of the "Paul Jones' Flag."\*

In the latter part of the winter of 1775 an attack had been made upon Norfolk, Virginia, by Lord Dunmore, but he was defeated by the provincials. Soon after, having been reinforced by the arrival of a British vessel, he laid that town in ashes. This so exasperated the Virginians that they resolved to free themselves from the British yoke. On the 7th of June Richard Henry Lee of Virginia was the first to recommend Congress to move: "That these United Colonies are, & of right ought to be free and independent states," and to sever their allegiance to the crown. From other quarters like requests were made; in fact, the spirit of liberty generally prevailed throughout the country. Some opposed this step. The members of Congress from New York and Pennsylvania had been instructed not to favor the separation. John Adams and Roger Sherman, with the other members from New England, however, gave it their hearty support, but while New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland and South Carolina hesitated, they were carried along with the overwhelming tide of the spirit of independence. The opposing colonies withdrew their opposition, and after a few amendments were made, at two o'clock on the 4th of July, 1776, the Declaration of Independence, drawn up by Thomas Jefferson of Virginia, and submitted to John Adams of Massachusetts, Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania, Roger Sherman of Connecticut and Robert R. Livingston of New York, was adopted, and signed by the other members of the thirteen States, by which glorious act the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA became one of the independent nations of the world.

This Declaration of Independence was a dignified rehearsal of the oppression of the American colonists by the King of Great Britain, who they declared "no longer worthy to be king of a free people." It sets forth the rights of a free people and ended with the solemn assertion:

\* Our Flag, by A. N. Whitmarsh, M. A.

"We, therefore, the representatives of the United States of America, in general congress assembled, appeal to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name & by the authorities of the good people of these colonies, solemnly publish & declare, that these United Colonies are & of a right ought to be, FREE & INDEPENDENT STATES; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, & that all political connection between them & the State of Great Britain is, & ought to be totally dissolved; and that as FREE & INDEPENDENT STATES, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, & do all other acts & things which INDEPENDENT STATES may of right do. And for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of DIVINE PROVIDENCE, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."

Those who signed this Declaration of Independence from Connecticut were Roger Sherman, Samuel Huntington and Oliver Wolcott.

Great was the rejoicing of the Sons and Daughters of Liberty when the news of this event was circulated throughout the country. But they had yet to carry out these declarations and to conquer a tenacious foe.

The Church of England in the Virginia Convention adopted a resolution to change the prayers of the Prayer Book, to omit all prayers for the King and royal family. The King's arms were burned; offensive parties burned in effigy and every effort made by the people to prove the independence of the country. In Connecticut, those loyal to the Declaration of Independence refused to read the prayers for the King and royal family.\*

Meanwhile the Assembly of Connecticut had received orders for two battalions to join the Continental army in the northern department. Every able-bodied volunteer who could clothe and supply himself with arms, etc., was offered a bounty of seven pounds two shillings.†

Seven battalions, inclusive of those raised in May, by requisition of the Continental Congress, were also ordered by the Assembly to be raised and equipped to join the army in New York, to be held in service until the last of December. A bounty of four pounds two shillings was

\* It has been said that the Rev. Mr. Beach of Reading, Conn., refused to comply with this demand, in consequence of which a continental officer stood at the church door with gun aimed at the S. P. G. missionary, threatening to fire at him if he read the prayer for the king. Mr. Beach prayed for the king and royal family. The officer was so overawed with the courage of the man that he speedily departed.

† Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 416.

offered to each volunteer who should clothe and equip himself with fire-arms, etc. Minute-men who had enlisted, or others who should enlist and hold themselves in readiness for any emergency, were offered a bounty of forty-two shillings. A further premium of forty shillings was granted to each man who should enlist in the continental regiment, voted to be raised in the last session of the Assembly, and destined for Boston. Every article for the comfort and sustenance of the troops was ordered for their long marches.\*

David Waterbury, Jr., of Stamford was appointed brigadier-general, for the battalion to reinforce the army in Canada. James Wadsworth, Jr., of Durham, was appointed brigadier-general of the battalion to be sent to reinforce the army in New York.†

Gold Sellick Silliman of Fairfield was commissioned colonel of the first battalion to be sent to the relief of New York.‡

George Benjamin captain, Wakeman Burr first lieutenant, Josiah Lacy second lieutenant, and Daniel Duncan ensign of the first company in said battalion. Zalmon Reid captain, Ezekiel Sanford first lieutenant, Ebenezer Banks, Jr., second lieutenant, and Joshua Adams ensign of the second company; and William Gaylord Hubbell, captain, Peter Penfield first lieutenant, and Benjamin Hecox ensign of the third company.§

Mr. Thaddeus Burr was appointed one of a committee to procure firearms and gun-locks manufactured in the colony for the army, and Samuel Squire military stores. The selectmen of every town were ordered to purchase lead weights and other implements of lead, bars and old lead and shot. If any person refused to give up these articles the civil authorities were ordered to impress them for the use of the army. Committees were appointed to seek out and purchase sulphur ore and lead mines in the colony.||

Fifty thousand more bills of credit were ordered to be printed, without interest, dated June 19, 1776, made payable January, 1782, to redeem which a tax of seven pence on the pound was levied on all polls and taxable estates in the colony of the 1779 list, to be paid into the treasury December, 1781.¶

Gold Sellick Silliman was appointed colonel of the regiment of horse called out in May.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 417-421.

† Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 425.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 437, 438.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 422.

¶ Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 425.

¶ Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 440.

This Assembly was the last held under the name of the Colony of Connecticut.\*

On the 18th of June a most earnest and eloquent proclamation was issued by Governor Trumbull, calling upon the "Virtue & public spirit of the good people of Connecticut to rise to superior exertions on this great occasion, to show themselves ready to battle in behalf of their injured & oppressed country; & come forth to the help of the Lord against the Mighty, & convince the Tyrants of *Britain* that they are resolved to be *Free*." He exhorted "all to step forth to defend their religion & their God, their homes, their wives, their children & their liberties, to promote a design on which the salvation of *America* depends; to fearlessly put their trust in God to humble their proud Oppressors. 'Our Fathers trusted in him & were delivered': & while our armies are abroad jeopardizing their lives in the high Places of the Field, let all who remain at Home cry mightily to God for the protection of his providence, to shield & defend their lives from Death, & to crown them with Victory & Success; to assemble frequently for social prayer to Almighty God, that he would awaken them to true repentance for sin, bless our cause—disappoint the cruel Devices of the Enemy—and preserve our precious Rights & Liberties, strengthen our tranquility, & make us a people of his Praise, & the blessed of the Lord, so long as the sun & moon shall endure."†

All the ministers in the colony were directed to read this proclamation in their several churches, " & to enforce its exhortations by their own pious example & public instructions."

On the 2d of July the Governor, etc., ordered five hundred pounds of gunpowder for the use of the town of Fairfield, and delivered to Captain Eliphalet Thorp.‡

A pressing letter, dated June 28th, was received at this time from General Washington, informing Governor Trumbull he had received intelligence "that a fleet of 130 sail left Halifax the 9th bound for New York; that General Howe was already arrived at the Hook; & pressed in the most earnest manner, that not one moment may be lost in sending forward the militia of this colony, etc." President Hancock had also written to the same effect, "in strong & pressing terms."§

Although the several battalions ordered by the last Assembly for the

\* Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 443.

† Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 460.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 450.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 460.



relief of New York were not all fully equipped and prepared to march, the Governor and Council decided, "that in this critical situation no effort could be too great, & nothing should be unattempted which might tend to strengthen & serve a cause on which all America depends." It was resolved to send the three regiments of light-horse lately established on the west side of the Connecticut River, to immediately set forward to the relief of the army in New York, and that £1,000 be advanced to assist them in their march.

Lieutenant-colonel Thomas Seymour, chief officer of this regiment of light-horse, in the absence of Colonel Silliman, was directed to transmit necessary orders to the majors of the said regiments and their other proper officers, to hasten the preparations to march, and to lead them for the service in which they were sent.

Letters of marque were prepared July 3d and sent to Captain Eliaphaet Thorp of Fairfield, part owner of the privateer "Broome."\*

On application of Lieutenant John Mills, commander of the party stationed at "*Black Rock Fort* at Fairfield," the sum of "£200 was granted for billeting, premium on guns, blankets, etc., & first month's pay & wages for his said party."†

Intelligence of the Declaration of Independence reached Governor Trumbull, etc., through Colonel Joseph Trumbull and William Williams July 11th, the latter having been appointed to fill the place of Colonel Oliver Wolcott in the Continental Congress vacated by illness. It was decided to act upon and publish the Articles of Independence at the next session of the General Assembly.‡

Captain Harding having sailed with the brig "Defence" as ordered, set out without further orders to capture some of the enemy's ships, reported off the Massachusetts coast. On the 19th of June he reported by letter to Governor Trumbull that he had sailed on the previous Sunday from Plymouth, and soon after heard a considerable firing to the northward. In the evening he fell in with four armed schooners, near the entrance of Boston harbor, from which he learned that they had been engaged with a ship and brig, and had been obliged to retire. Upon this information he had sailed for Nantasket Road, where he found the British ship and brig at anchor. In his own words he related: "that he immediately fell in between the two, & came to anchor at 11 o'clock at

\* Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 462.

† Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XV, 462.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., Vol. XV, 475, 476.

night. I hailed the ship, which answered, from *Great Britain*. I ordered her to strike her colours to America. They answered by asking *What brig is that?* I told them the 'Defence.' I then hailed him again, & told him I did not want to kill his men, but would have the ship at all events; & again ordered him to strike; upon which the major (since dead) said, *yes, I'll strike*, & fired a broad-side upon me, which I immediately returned, when an engagement began, which lasted three glasses, when the ship & brig both struck. In this engagement, I had nine men wounded, but none killed. The enemy had 18 killed & a number wounded. My officers & men behaved with great bravery, none could have outdone them. We took out of the above vessel 200 prisoners, among whom is Col. Campbell of General Frazier's regiment of Highlanders. The major (Menzies) was killed in the engagement. . . . Yesterday a ship was seen in the Bay, which came towards the entrance of Boston harbour, upon which I came to sail with four schooners in company; we came off with them, & took them without an engagement: there were on board, 112 Highlanders. . . . As there are a number more of the same fleet expected every day, & the General has urged me to stay, I will tarry a few days, & proceed for New London. My brig is much damaged in her sails & rigging." Captain Harding's offence for sailing without orders was excused and justified; the "Defence" ordered to be repaired and "cruise the Sound for the best interest of the Colony."\*

The famous Newgate prison at Simsbury was fast being filled with Tory prisoners, and as it became necessary to give it a stronger guard, the overseer was ordered "to place a guard of two faithful men nightly, & more if necessary, to watch the prison & all avenues leading to it, to prevent the escape of prisoners or access to them by unknown or suspicious persons."

Samuel Squire of Fairfield with four other commissaries were by the Governor and Council appointed a committee, July 17th, to purchase all suitable tow-cloth and other cloths for tents to be obtained in their several counties; " & cause the same to be made up into proper tents for the use of the troops of this colony in the most expeditious manner they can, & report to his Honor of what they shall respectively do in the premises."†

\* Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 479, 488.

† Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 483.

## CHAPTER XIV

(PART SECOND)

It was also voted "that a quantity of home-made cloth or other, if that can't be obtained, as far as may be of a brown or cloth colour, sufficient for three thousand coats, & the same number of waist-coats; & as many blankets as can be obtained in the Colony; three thousand felt hats, cloth of check'd flannel, or some linen if that can't be obtained, sufficient for six thousand shirts, & also six thousand pair of shoes, to be collected as soon as may be, & deposited in proper stores in the several counties. And the above named committee were appointed to procure the same. The proportion of this order to be supplied by Fairfield County was '300 coats & waistcoats, 300 felt hats, 600 shirts, & 1,000 shoes.'"<sup>\*</sup> The northern army at Crown Point and Fort Ticonderoga being in great need of clothing, it was decided to send a supply without further orders.

A stringent law was passed for the arrest of spies, whether they appear as gentlemen, expresses, travelers or common beggars, unless by a certificate from Congress, Committee of Safety or some legal, public or military officer; otherwise they were to be arrested, taken and tried before the civil authorities of the town in which they were seized. It was also ordered "that suitable watches be kept in all the larger towns by night, to arrest such suspicious persons & prevent them from practicing mischief against this or the rest of the United American Colonies."<sup>†</sup>

The colony having purchased a sloop at New London on August 2d, Captain Harding was ordered, with his officers, sailors and marines, to fit it up as an armed brigantine with the greatest dispatch, "& to make use of the masts, sails, rigging, guns & other implements & furniture of the brigantine 'Defence.'"<sup>‡</sup>

August 9th, Lieutenant Mills was granted pay for two months' billeting for the forces in service at Fairfield. The selectmen of Fairfield were given liberty to purchase, at the expense of the town, two of the colony cannon from the furnace at Salisbury for the use of the fort at Fairfield, viz., one twelve-pounder and one eighteen-pounder or two twelve-pounders, and one ton of shot suitable for the cannon.<sup>§</sup>

The Fourth Regiment, with thirteen other regiments of militia, were ordered immediately to march to New York, and there place themselves under the command of General Washington.¶

On August 10th Captain Samuel Squire was ordered to supply the

<sup>\*</sup> Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 483.

<sup>†</sup> Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 486, 487.

<sup>‡</sup> Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 495.

<sup>§</sup> Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 496.

¶ Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 498.

brig "Defence" with provisions, and also to furnish a supply for the colony.

Captain Harding of the "Defence" was given orders to cruise against the enemy of the *United States of America*, as soon as fitted to sail, for about the space of eight weeks, "to secure prizes & bring them into some port of the United States & there secure & condemn them."\*

Oliver Wolcott was commissioned, August 12th, Brigadier-General of the militia of the State of Connecticut, and to march with his forces to join General Washington in New York.

Lieutenant David Hawley, of ship "Oliver Cromwell," was appointed captain August 16th, and "given £180 to raise a crew of seamen for the naval service of the United States of America on the lakes to the northward."†

"A large Bermudian built sloop" having been purchased, was placed under the command of Captain Walker of New Providence and fitted for naval duty. It was called the new "Defence" and Captain Harding's brig the old "Defence."

Meanwhile General Howe had made an attack on Charleston, South Carolina, but the forts there having been strongly fortified, he was driven off by heavy cannonading. He set sail for New York and landed his troops on Long Island, where he had many Tory sympathizers. On the 8th of July he was reinforced by a body of 9,000 Hessians, who were landed on Staten Island. A few days after his brother, Admiral Howe, arrived with reinforcements, which, with General Clinton's detachment and other arrivals, swelled the British ranks to about 24,000.

The American army, with all the energy Connecticut had put forth, and with the united forces of the other colonies sent to the relief of New York, did not amount to more than half the British army. General Howe having thrown up fortifications on the west end of Long Island, opposite New York, upon the arrival of reinforcements resolved to attack the Continental army. On August 22d General Clinton crossed from Staten Island with 10,000 men and forty cannon.

General Putnam had been sent to join the army of Generals Sullivan and Sterling, stationed in and around Brooklyn. A battle was fought on the morning of the 27th without advantage to either side; but although the American army bravely met their assailants, they were not prepared as yet to cope with the well-disciplined troops of the enemy.

\* Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 499.

† Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 503.



The British advanced upon them from an unguarded road in the rear, and Lord Cornwallis, coming up from the south end of Brooklyn, totally defeated them, taking 1,100 prisoners. The prisoners were sent to the loathsome prison-ships to die of disease, hunger and want.

The American prisoners were stripped almost naked of their clothing; robbed of their baggage, money and shoe-buckles, and those who had fine clothes were stripped, and told, "*such clothes* were too good for rebels." The prison-ships lacked water, food and comforts of every kind. Many hundreds of Americans died in this way. The British loss during this battle was estimated to be 367 in killed and wounded, while the American loss was 1,650, besides those taken prisoners.

On the second night after this battle the American forces were secretly withdrawn to New York. After leaving a garrison in the city, Washington sent the main body of his forces to Harlem Heights. The garrison found it impossible to hold their position, while the militia at Harlem "becoming discouraged, deserted by companies." The continentals or regulars caught the infection, making a retreat an absolute necessity.

With all these discouragements Washington retained an undaunted spirit, and resolved to avoid a further encounter until his army should be in a better disciplined condition, "to weary out the enemy by frequent marches, & not meet them except in skirmishes."

Upon learning of these disasters, by request of Washington, on the 31st of August, Governor Trumbull and his Council of War and Safety resolved to send a body of men "to be thrown across the Sound to harass the enemy in the rear & upon their flanks." Eight regiments were ordered to march to New London, and there to hold themselves in readiness to embark for Long Island, and to march to the assistance of the American army. The regiment stationed at New London and Groton was also ordered to join them if necessary, and protect the inhabitants of Long Island and their stock from the enemy. Captain Harding was ordered to use the "Defence" as a guard vessel at the harbor of New London.\*

Upon learning of the distressed condition of the inhabitants of Long Island and their desire to leave for a safer place, the Governor ordered "a sufficient force to be put on board the transports to assist & guard them in their design."†

\* Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 511, 513.

† Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 514.

The 19th of September was ordered to be set apart as a public day of fasting and prayer throughout the *State*.\*

The Fourth and Second Regiments of Horse, with nine foot regiments of militia, were ordered to march and rendezvous at Westchester. Captain Samuel Squire of Fairfield with Jonathan Fitch of New Haven were instructed to make all necessary provisions for the march. At the same time orders were given for the maintenance of the northern army.†

On the 18th of September orders were sent to the several towns in Connecticut, in which the distressed people of Long Island had sought refuge, that they should provide such things as were found necessary for their maintenance until the sitting of the General Assembly in October.

Hospitals were ordered to be erected in the State for the sick on furlough or discharged. The selectmen of Fairfield and all other towns from New Haven to Greenwich were instructed to provide hospitals; and to place in them suitable persons to care for the sick and wounded belonging to the State "on the road home," and to furnish them with such assistance, provisions and refreshment as were deemed necessary.‡

The sad fate of Captain Nathaniel Hale, who had been sent into the enemy's camp by General Washington to gain necessary information of their movements, and who was arrested by a Tory relative and hanged as a spy, sent a thrill of horror and gloom throughout the country, and added to the discouraging condition of affairs.

General Washington, however, endowed as he was with true military genius and bravery, resolved to make some vigorous efforts to raise the spirits of his army.

On the 15th of September the British had detached a large force to cross the East River three miles above New York, and established a line of occupation across the island. General Putnam with a rear guard of 4,000 exhausted men barely had time to escape and reach the Washington camp at Harlem. The enemy sent out parties to reconnoitre. Washington seized the opportunity to attack their front, and at the same time sent a detachment to attack their rear. Although the British were reinforced, they were defeated with the loss of over a hundred men. The American loss was not half as great, but Colonel Knowlton and Major Leitch while leading the attack in the rear were killed.

The British were now in full possession of New York. On the 20th

\* Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 515.

† Col. Rec. Conn., XV, 522.

of September 493 buildings, including Trinity Church, were consumed by fire.

Meanwhile Washington's forces were engaged in strengthening their positions in and above Harlem by a double line of entrenchments, and in erecting Fort Washington, "on a rocky height overlooking the Hudson." Discovering it to be impossible to attack the Americans successfully in their fortifications, General Howe, with a view to storm them in the rear, sent a part of his fleet up the Hudson to cut off communications with the west and south, while he himself with a strong force sailed up the Sound and took possession of grounds northeast of Washington's camp. Meanwhile Washington, anxious to prevent an engagement, left a body of 3,000 men to guard Fort Washington at all hazards, and moved from Manhattan with the remainder of his army to White Plains.

The following interesting account of the Battle of White Plains, in which General Silliman's regiment and Captain David Dimon's company were engaged, is most thrilling as given by an eye witness:

"Action at White Plains, Oct. 28. Last Monday we received intelligence that the enemy with their whole body were advancing upon us. The army was alarmed & Gen. Wadsworth's brigade with Gen. Spencer's (about 600 more) were sent out as an advance party to skirmish & harass the enemy; & they advanced cautiously to a hill, where they were discovered by the British & fired upon. Advancing with light parties we fired upon them from behind walls & fences, scattering & causing them to run away from the front; but they attempted to get round upon our wing to flank us, playing upon us in the most furious manner. We held the walls until about to be surrounded & then retreated from one hill to another. The Hessians advancing were fired upon at about 20 rods distant, & scattered like leaves in a whirlwind, running so far that we, some of us, had time to run to their grounds & bring off their arms & accoutrements & rum that the men who fell had with them, which we had time to drink round before they came on again. The enemy formed at a distance & waited until their artillery & main body came on, when they advanced in solid columns upon us, & were gathered all around us, ten to our one. Cols. Douglas & Silliman's regiments fired four or five times on them as they advanced and then retreated; but not until the enemy began to fire on our flanks. Cols. Silliman, Douglas & Arnold behaved nobly, & the men gained much applause. Col. William Williams' & Col. Douglas' regiments had the principal share of the action. Col. Webb had four killed & eight wounded. Col. Silliman lost six & had ten or twelve wounded. Col. Douglas had three killed & six wounded. Col. Brooks', Smallwood's & Ritzman's regiments, who were drawn upon the hill near the lines, suffered considerably. Our loss seventy or eighty killed & wounded. It is said by all the deserters & captains, who agree in their stories, that the enemy had about 300 killed & wounded.

"The scene was grand & solemn; all the adjacent hill smoked as though on fire, & bellowed & trembled with a perpetual cannonade & fire of field pieces, hobits & mortars. The air groaned with streams of cannon & musket shot; the hills smoked & echoed terribly with the bursting of shells; the fences & walls were knocked down & torn to pieces; & men's legs, arms & bodies, mangled with cannon & grape shot, all around us. I was in

the action, & under as good advantage as any one man perhaps to observe all that passed, & write these particulars of the action from my own observation

"No general action was designed on our part, & I believe that not more than 1000 men were ever engaged at one time with the enemy. They came on to the hills opposite our lines & halted; & after commanding part of the lines a short time they became very still and quiet.

"Yesterday (Oct. 31st) it was observed that they had nearly finished four or five batteries which they had erected against us; & as our ground near the center of the town at White Plains was not good, being overlooked by neighboring hills, the Generals last night drew off most of the troops from the lines there, & this morning the Generals & sentries burned the town & foraged all around it, & came off about nine o'clock.

"We carried off all our stores & planted our artillery on the hills about a mile & a half back of the center of the town. The enemy advanced this forenoon on the ground we left, but as soon as they came over the hills we saluted them with our cannon & field pieces, & they advanced no further. The main body now lies over against us, & they have formed no lines across the country as yet below us. The light horse may possibly scour across as far as the river, but how that is we cannot determine. All things seem to be quiet at Fort Washington."\*

Finding the Americans had entrenched themselves strongly during the night, General Howe did not feel it prudent to attack them until reinforced. Taking advantage of his delay, Washington withdrew his forces to New Castle, south of the Croton River. After a few days Howe returned to New York.

While these events were passing in the army, a General Assembly of the Governor & Company of the State of Connecticut in New England in America was held at Hartford on the 10th of October. Mr. Jonathan Sturges and Mr. Thaddeus Burr represented Fairfield.

The first act of the Assembly was to pass the following resolutions, approving the act of the Continental Congress in severing the United States from all allegiance to the British Crown: "That this Colony is & of right ought to be a free & independent State, & the inhabitants thereof are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, & all political connection between them & the King of Great Britain is, & ought to be totally dissolved."

It was further enacted: "That the form of civil government in this State shall continue to be as established by Charter received from Charles the Second, King of England, so far as an adherence to the same will be consistent with an absolute independence of this State on the Crown of Great Britain; & that all officers, civil & military, heretofore appointed

\* Penn. Evening Post, November 14, 1776. Moore's *Diary of American Revolution*, pp. 334-337.



by this State, continue in the execution of their several offices; & the laws of this State shall continue in force until otherwise ordered. And that for the future all writs & processes in law or equity shall issue in the name of the Governor & Company of the *State of Connecticut*, & that all summonses, attachments, & other processes before any assistant or justice of the peace, the words, One of his Majesty's justices of the peace be omitted; & that instead thereof be inserted, *justice of the peace*; that no writ or process shall have or bear any date save the year of Our Lord only; any law, usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding. And that the act in alteration of an act prescribing forms of writs, processes, etc., be repealed, & the same is hereby repealed."\*

An act was passed making it "a treasonable offence for any person residing in the State & under the protection of its laws, to levy war against the State or Government, knowingly to assist any enemy at open war against the State, or the United States of America, by joining their army, persuading others to aid or enlist for that purpose, furnishing such enemies with arms, ammunition, provision, or carrying on a treacherous correspondence with them, forming any combination, plot, or conspiracy for betraying the State or the United States into the hands of the enemy, or shall give or attempt to give any intelligence to the enemy, shall suffer death."†

An Oath of Fidelity was enacted to be taken by the members of the General Assembly and other officers, civil, military and the freemen within the State of Connecticut.

An act was passed for seizing and imprisoning persons inimical and dangerous to the United States and conveying them to a place of safety. This law proved a severe measure for Tories. Many persons refused to take the oath of allegiance to the United States; some fled to Canada and others joined the British forces and sought safety on their ships. The names of Tories were published in the papers.

An act was also passed for "supporting the credit & currency of the bills of credit of the State, & of the United States; & making it punishable to attempt to depreciate them or to counterfeit bills of credit or lawful coin."

Fresh efforts were ordered to be put forth for equipping and supplying the army with arms, ammunition, clothing and provisions. If necessary provisions were withheld to supply the army when in need, the

\* Rec. State Conn., I, 3, 4.

† Rec. State Conn., I, 4.

Governor and Committee of Safety were authorized "to impress & seize the same out of the hands of any engrosser, by paying them a suitable remuneration."

An embargo was laid upon all kinds of provision and clothing sent out of the colony.

Provisions of every kind were scarce throughout the State. In the absence of the older members of families, women and young boys were forced from necessity to plow the fields and raise grain and provisions. Husking parties were formed in the fall, and bushels of corn made ready for the use of the army.

Eight battalions were ordered to be raised out of the Connecticut troops for the Continental army.

Colonel David Dimon of Fairfield was appointed major and Philip Burr Bradley colonel of the eighth battalion, to be raised in the State of Connecticut. Albert Chapman of Green's Farms was appointed captain and Ebenezer Banks of Greenfield second lieutenant in the same battalion. Elijah Abel, Phineas Beardsley and Ezekiel Sanford were also made captains of the eighth battalion.\*

The exposed position of the seaboard towns led the Assembly to appeal to Congress to send two battalions to be posted along the coast of Connecticut.†

David Wooster of New Haven was commissioned major-general of the militia of Connecticut, and placed in command of the Ninth, Tenth and Sixteenth Regiments, the Third Regiment of Light Horse, as well as all available militia and householders, to prevent the encroachments of the British on the western borders of the State, and to give all possible relief to General Washington. Quartermasters or their agents were given liberty to impress and seize timber, stone, horses, oxen, carts or carriages, under a just sum of pay or hire, as well as every kind of provision and necessity for the use of the army. Supplies and provisions were also sent to General Gates for Fort Ticonderoga.‡

It having been shown to the Assembly that certain persons in the County at Fairfield withheld provisions for the use of the army, Captain Samuel Squire was instructed to seize any such necessary provision, and, if refused, to take with him proper officers to break open any shops

\* Col. Rec. State of Conn., I, 13.

† Col. Rec. State of Conn., I, 16.

‡ Col. Rec. State of Conn., I, 19.

or store, in order to take possession of them; and to remove all stores in the seaboard towns to the interior.

Measures were taken to furnish the sick in camp with every possible relief and comfort and to establish a State hospital.\*

A Commissary of Prisoners of War was appointed to care for prisoners of the State and those sent from other States for safety.

Thaddeus Burr was appointed one of four gentlemen to repair to Washington's army, and with the advice and assistance of the general officers of the State to arrange into regiments and companies the officers and soldiers appointed for the State battalions, and number their commissions according to their proper rank. The Governor was requested to forthwith issue orders to the chief commanders of the second, third, fourth, seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth and twentieth regiments of militia, to be suitably equipped with arms and ammunition, and assigned to suitable posts along the Sound; to be held in readiness for any sudden attacks upon the towns, and to give speedy alarm to the adjoining towns.†

It had been discovered that a party of miscreants had formed a direct line of communication with the British from New York to Canada. General Wooster was therefore instructed to aid a committee appointed to remove all Tory sympathizers with the British in the western part of the State, as well as "persons disposed to cause insurrection and resistance to State authority to some suitable place in the interior, & there to hold them as prisoners."‡

Lieutenant-colonel Samuel Whiting was promoted to be colonel of the Fourth Regiment of militia in place of Gold Sellick Silliman promoted; Captain Abraham Gould (Gold) was promoted colonel of militia in place of Ichabod Lewis deceased; Captain Jonathan Dimon major in place of Agur Judson, all in the Fourth Regiment of militia of the State.§

It was reported about the 7th of October that on the 29th of September a prize ship from Jamaica bound to London was taken by Captain Harding of the ship "Defence," with a large cargo of rum, sugar, bales of cotton, a quantity of mahogany and two sea turtles, which he sent into New London. This prize had "sailed from Montego Bay, in company with two hundred sail under a convoy of two ships of war, which returned to port." "On the 3d of October Captain Harding arrived in the 'Defence' from a cruise; & on the same morning he fell in with two

\* Col. Rec. State of Conn., I, 20, 26.

† Col. Rec. Conn., I, 27.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., I, 26.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., I, 28.

British frigates; the frigates fired sixty or seventy shot at the 'Defence,' & the 'Defence' returned a like number—and the frigates came to anchor off Goshen-reef, about five miles west of New London harbor." Two days after "Captain Harding took the aforesaid prize, he also took a Guinea-man, homeward bound from the West Indies, William Jackson, Master."\*

Captain Harding was ordered, October 23d, by the Governor and Council, sitting at New Haven, to sail with the brig "Defence" on a cruise against the enemy for two months.† Before sailing Captain Hardy reported December 12th to Governor Trumbull, "That Lieut. Ebenezer Bartram was in poor health, & unable to go to sea, which he much regretted, as he was a man of courage, & wished him kept under pay for his former good services." Captain Bartram was afterwards fully remunerated for his valuable services in the "Defence."‡ He died January 3d, in 1783, aged fifty-two, and was one of the heroes of the Revolution who sacrificed his health and life for his country. His remains, with those of his wife (his son, Captain Joseph Bartram, was lost at sea on a return voyage from the West Indies), were buried in Burial Hill Cemetery at Fairfield.

October 30th, Captain Samuel Squire was granted £500 as commissary.

At the same time it was voted to supply Andrew Rowland of Fairfield and Samuel Broom and Company, "with 8 three-pounders double fortified, 8 swivels, 500-weight of gunpowder at 5s. 4d. per hundred-weight, 240 round of shot & one hundred-weight of grape shot, two ounces each."§

A most dispiriting account of the naval action on Lake Champlain and the defeat of the Americans by the British reached the Governor and Council soon after. Though the action lasted five hours, only one galley escaped, with the sloop "Enterprize," two small schooners and one gondola. The remainder of the fleet was taken and burned. General Arnold fought in the galley "'Congress,' as long as possible, then ran her ashore, burned her, & escaped to Ticonderoga with a loss of twenty men. General Waterbury in the 'Washington' galley, fought until the galley was sinking under him & was obliged to strike to the enemy."|| Both Generals Arnold and Waterbury commanded Connecticut troops.

\* Hinman's War of the Revolution, p. 90.

† Rec. State Conn., I, 54.

‡ State Rec. Conn., I, 456.

§ State Rec. Conn., I, 56.

|| Connecticut Courant. Hinman's War of the Revolution, p. 91.



The appearance on the Sound of several armed British cruisers gave general alarm to all the towns. On December 9th twenty-four sail of the British fleet were at anchor between Fairfield and Norwalk.

A town meeting was called at Fairfield, October 31st, when it was voted: "That there be a guard of twenty-six men to guard the town nightly, & every night to be set in manner following, viz.: four to patrol from Saugatuck River to Cable's mill, & from said mill to Sasco river, & four from Sasco river to the Mill River, & four from Mill River to Pine Creek, & six to patrol from Pine Creek to the Ash-house Creek so called, & in the town streets, & four at Stratfield. Voted, Each one of the guards have three shillings a night for their services. Voted the guard to be taken out of the Fairfield Prime Society, Green's Farms, Greenfield & Stratfield."\*

Meanwhile General Washington, fearing an attack on New Jersey, left General Lee in command of about four thousand men at Fort Washington, and took up his headquarters at Fort Lee on the opposite side of the Hudson. General Lee was soon after attacked at Fort Washington by the British in overwhelming numbers and obliged to capitulate, leaving stores and ammunition, with over two thousand prisoners, in the enemy's hands. The British then crossed the Hudson, November 19th, to Fort Lee, which Washington hastily abandoned, leaving a great quantity of baggage and artillery, and, marching rapidly to Trenton, crossed the Delaware by boat, into Pennsylvania. By this time Washington's troops were reduced to three thousand men, who endured great hardships while pursued by the British, "some of them being without shoes, leaving blood-stained tracks on the frozen ground." Among those who were with General Washington's forces at this time was Captain Nathan Jennings of Fairfield, one of whose daughters afterwards married Commodore Reid of the United States Navy. Lord Cornwallis followed closely after, but upon reaching Trenton concluded to wait before crossing the Delaware until the ice in the river should be broken up. He stationed his troops at Princeton, New Brunswick and other advantageous points in New Jersey.

Philadelphia was now threatened, and the Congress adjourned to Baltimore. Washington was soon joined by fresh forces from Pennsylvania, and finding himself at the head of an army of five thousand men, he resolved to make an attack upon the enemy.

\* Fairfield Town Records.

At this critical state of depression and gloom throughout the country Sir William Howe offered pardon to all persons who should return to their allegiance to Great Britain within sixty days, as well as to all congresses, civil and military.

Taking advantage of Christmas, at which time Washington, foreseeing that the German and British troops stationed at Trenton would give themselves up to enjoyment, decided to make a bold stroke and attack them on the night of the 25th while they were sleeping soundly after their day of revelry. The night being stormy favored his design. Two of his divisions found it impossible, however, to cross the Delaware, which was full of floating ice; but Washington and Sullivan, with the third division, successfully crossed and commenced their march at four o'clock in the morning to Trenton. They came suddenly upon the enemy, and taking them wholly by surprise completely overpowered them. Colonel Rahl in command of fifteen hundred Hessians, while vainly endeavoring to rally his troops, was mortally wounded. One thousand Hessians threw down their arms, while the rest, with the British cavalry, escaped. Recognizing the fact that he could not hold Trenton against the numbers which in a short time could be marched against him, Washington prudently recrossed the Delaware with his prisoners and captured booty, having lost but four men, two of whom died from cold and exposure.

This well achieved stroke gave heart to the entire country, and Congress invested Washington with almost unlimited power to prosecute the war. Lord Howe, who had so recently offered pardon to all in arms against Great Britain, recalled General Cornwallis to New Jersey almost at the moment when the latter was about to sail for England.

Although the enlistment of fourteen hundred of Washington's forces had expired, upon being offered a bounty of ten dollars each to continue with him they agreed to remain six weeks longer. Four days after Washington recrossed the Delaware with his forces to Trenton, but upon learning of the arrival of Cornwallis with a large body of troops he made a forced circuitous march in the rear of the British to Princeton, where, January 3d, they overtook a brigade of the enemy, overpowered them, drove them from the town with great loss and took three hundred prisoners. Cornwallis, hearing the noise of an engagement, hurried to the relief of his brigade, but Washington had led his forces and prisoners to Morristown Heights, where the British general saw that it was useless

to attack them in their impregnable situation, and soon after withdrew most of his forces to New York and vicinity. The loss of the British at the Battle of Princeton was about four hundred, and that of the American about one hundred.

Washington now stationed his army in detachments at Princeton, in the Highlands of the Hudson and at Morristown, where he spent several months in organizing, training and preparing them for service. And here Washington, from his winter quarters, sent out detachments of troops which recovered the greater part of New Jersey.

The drain on Connecticut for forces to carry out the war in all these engagements was very great. Reinforcements were constantly sent for the defence of Lake Champlain, Ticonderoga, Crown Point, Canada, New York, New London, Long Island, Rhode Island and to protect the western part of the State. About fifteen thousand men were employed in these drafts and marched out of the State during the year.”\*

On the 18th of December the General Assembly met at Middletown, when it was enacted that all the twenty-five regiments of the State should be formed into six brigades commanded by two major-generals, “to rank & command as first & second over the whole militia of the State.”†

To prevent unreasonable and excessive prices for the necessities and conveniences of life occasioned “chiefly by monopolizers, the great pests of society, who prefer their own private gain to the interests & safety of the country,” the committees of the several States of New England, having recommended that the prices of necessities be limited by law, the Assembly proceeded to fix a price upon labor of every kind, as well as all kinds of products, food and clothing; legal fees of every kind, liquors, imported goods and those taken on prize vessels. Suitable penalties were fixed upon any infringement of these prices. Vessels or boats of any size were prohibited from going out of harbors of the State without a license. A limit was placed upon excessive charges by tavern keepers in houses of public entertainment. Owing to a scarcity of bread stuffs, distilled liquors from wheat, rye and Indian corn were prohibited until the May Assembly.‡

Eighty thousand pounds of notes, in equal sums of ten pounds each, were ordered to be borrowed from persons in the State in money or bills of credit on the State or on the Continental Congress by the State

\* Hinman's War of the Revolution, p. 111.

† Col. Rec. Conn., I, 91.

‡ Rec. State Conn., I, 97.

treasurer, payable to the bearer at or before the end of three years, with four per cent. interest. These notes were to be received and paid by a State Loan Office, established at this time for borrowing and repaying money. John Lawrence, Esq., the treasurer of the State, was chosen commissioner for this office.\*

Intelligence having reached the Assembly of the designs of the British to penetrate into New Jersey and Pennsylvania, all able-bodied men on the west side of the Connecticut River were called upon "to spring forward for the service & defence of their country," form themselves into companies, choose their own officers, and march to Washington's headquarters at Peekskill, their officers to be commissioned on the road by some of the field officers. They were granted a bounty of twenty shillings each from their captains to assist them on their march. "And may the God of armies inspire good people with zeal & resolution on this most interesting & hopeful occasion."†

Thaddeus Burr was appointed one of a committee to carry out this design and "to rouse & animate the people to rise & exert themselves in the greatest expedition." All friends of the country were called upon "to lend every aid in their power to promote this great & good design." Men and youths who had not entered the army, or who had left it, independent of the train-bands, were now required to bear arms from the age of sixteen to sixty; those exempt from ordinary training were to constitute an alarm list.‡ Only ministers, members of the General Assembly and of the Council of War, the president, tutors and students of Yale College, negroes, Indians and mulattoes were exempt. Men over fifty, millers and ferrymen were not required to march out of the State. The selectmen of each town were required to furnish a correct list of the male population for the alarm list and deliver them to the commanding officer of the regiment to which they belonged; to be formed into companies to consist of about sixty-four privates, with one captain, one lieutenant and one ensign.§

One company of volunteers was stationed in each of the Sound towns. Fairfield was ordered to raise twenty men, commanded by a lieutenant and one sergeant. Lieutenant George Burr was placed in command of this contingent.||

\* Rec. State Conn., I, 107.

† Col. Rec. Conn., I, 108.

‡ Col. Rec. Conn., I, 109.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., I, 92.

|| Col. Rec. Conn., I, 119.



Troops were also ordered to be raised, and a committee appointed for the defence of the State, and to assist the other New England State committees in driving the British from Rhode Island, and to open free communication with the army stationed in and about New York, New Jersey and Philadelphia. The selectmen of each town were ordered to care for sick and infirm soldiers from any State passing through Connecticut.

Reports of the inhuman manner in which the American troops were treated "who had unhappily fallen into the hands of the enemy in the last campaign, having suffered extreme hardships, distress & hunger cold & nakedness, & many thereby reduced to sickness; & the sick crowded in heaps, neglected & left to die for want of medicine or any reasonable care," it was resolved to investigate the facts of their condition and report to the Governor, "that such steps might be taken to prevent the like injustice & cruelty in future." The commissary appointed to care for prisoners was also required to make a report of the condition of prisoners brought into Connecticut.\*

Captain Samuel Squire was ordered to apply to the treasurer for means to pay off the troops of General Wooster and Colonels Ward and Waterbury, which had been billeted on the inhabitants of Norwalk, Stamford and Greenwich, while on their march to New York in 1775 and 1776.†

General Wooster was appointed first major-general of the whole State militia, and Gold Sellick Silliman brigadier-general of the Fourth Brigade of the State militia. Abijah Sterling was commissioned captain of a train-band in Stratfield, in the Fourth Regiment.‡

In order to meet the demands upon the State treasury a tax of four pence on the pound was levied on the taxable estates of the inhabitants of the list of 1775 with the additions to be collected and paid into the treasury on or before the 10th day of May, 1777.§

The Assembly granted an appeal from Ezra Hawley and others of Stratford from their exposed condition for a guard of twenty-five men at New Field Harbor (Bridgeport), to be under the command of Lieutenant Aaron Hawley and two sergeants, with an order to receive from the foundry at Simsbury two cannon, four-pounders, to be mounted on proper carriages, with a sufficient quantity of shot and powder.||

\* Col. Rec. Conn., I, 121.

† Col. Rec. Conn., I, 132.

‡ Rec. State Conn., I, 134, 136.

§ Rec. State Conn., I, 139.

|| Rec. State Conn., I, 142.

1777. The Governor and Council of Safety met at Middletown, December 8th. On January 10th Lieutenant Samuel Bartram of Black Rock, of the brig "Defence," was from infirmity dismissed from his office, and Lieutenant Samuel Smedley promoted to the office of first lieutenant. Captain Harding was ordered to sail on a cruise for three months, and in case he was not able to sail Lieutenant Smedley was to act in his place, and to join, if deemed advisable, with other privateers in an expedition against the vessels and wood-cutters at Shelter Island. Orders were also given for a distribution of the last prize taken by the brig "Defence."\*

Letters were received from General Washington, dated January 10th, and from President Hancock, urging the utmost dispatch in filling up quotas to lie at the eastward of New York, to divert an expected attack upon Philadelphia.

On January 25th a distribution was ordered to be made from the sale of the prize ship "Sally" and schooners "Hancock" and "Elizabeth," and after deducting to the commander-in-chief one-twentieth part of the net proceeds of each, one-third of the remainder was ordered to be distributed to the agents of the crews of the "Defence" and the schooner "Spy."†

Lieutenant Isaac Burr represented to the Governor "that twenty new men were not enough for the service at Fairfield, & that the cannon, being double fortified 12-pounders, were too heavy to be managed by them." Five men more were at once added to the battery for one year.‡

On the 28th of January the Rev. John Sayer, rector of the Church of England at Fairfield, having been sent to the Governor and Council, "as a person inimical and dangerous to the interests of the United States," it was resolved "to send Mr. Sayer to the Society of New Britain in Farmington, to be under the care of Col. Isaac Lee, from the limits of which place he was not to depart until further orders from the Governor & Council of Safety."§

On February 3d Thaddeus Burr, Esq., was by letter requested to obtain ten tons of good, well-dressed flax for the State. Many persons outside the State applied for flax and rye, and were allowed to purchase hundreds of tons of flax in Fairfield County.

Lieutenant Samuel Smedley was promoted captain of the brig "De-

\* Rec. State Conn., I, 156.

† Rec. State Conn., I, 161.

‡ Rec. State Conn., I, 162.

§ Rec. State Conn., I, 164.

fence " for a further cruise in place of Captain Harding, who from ill-health was retired from service.\*

Orders were sent to Captain Squire and Mr. Thaddeus Burr to stop sending clothing to New York now needed in the State.

Smallpox having become prevalent in the army, by advice from Washington all troops raised for further service were by the Governor and Council ordered to be inoculated before joining the army, and each town was instructed to provide suitable hospitals for that purpose, attended by good physicians and good nurses, and great care taken to prevent the spread of the disease.

Lieutenant John Mills of Fairfield was appointed first lieutenant March 1st in Colonel Swift's regiment. At the same time he was allowed £16 16s. for money advanced by him for the defence of the harbor at Black Rock. He was soon after promoted captain of Colonel Swift's battalion.†

The military guard stationed at Fairfield was placed under the command of Brigadier-General Silliman, and the selectmen of the town were given liberty to draw on the powder mill at New Haven for cannon and musket powder which they might necessarily require for the defence of the town.‡

On March 11th the Governor, etc., ordered that a company of matrosses consisting of thirty-two men should be raised and stationed at Fairfield and parts adjacent, under Captain John Grinnell and other officers appointed by General Silliman.§

On the 15th of March six warriors from the Six Nations presented themselves to the Governor, etc., who were travelling through the State to obtain knowledge of the true condition of the country in the present war, so as to make a report to their several tribes. They were received with courtesy. The forenoon was occupied in delivering a speech to them, and they were presented " with a gun, a gun-lock and belt strings, etc., in token of friendship," the gun and lock being manufactured in Connecticut, " & given as a specimen of American workmanship."||

\* Rec. State Conn., I, 168.

† Rec. State Conn., I, 189.

‡ Rec. State Conn., I, 190.

§ Mattross, almost an obsolete word. A soldier in a train-band next to the gunner, to assist them in loading, firing, and sponging the guns. They carried fire-locks and marched with the store-wagons as guards and assistants. Sometimes sailors and marines who sleep in hanging-mats or hammocks were called mattrosses.

|| Rec. State Conn., I, 192.

On the 15th of March "A letter from a great house in France to his Honor the Governor, offering supplies, was communicated to the Governor & Council, & they appeared greatly pleased."\*

In March, 1776, Silas Dean of Wethersfield and Arthur Lee had been sent by the Continental Congress to France, Prussia and Spain to make overtures for assistance in prosecuting the war in America. Soon after Dr. Benjamin Franklin was elected a commissioner of the Continental Congress to conclude a treaty of friendship with the French Court. He sailed for France October 27th, reached Nantes December 13, 1776, and proceeded at once to Paris, "where he engrossed the whole attention of the public. People of all ranks paid court to him. His affability and complacent behaviour gained him the esteem of the greatest people in the kingdom."†

While France sympathized with America, it was not deemed expedient to lend any open assistance to Dean, Franklin and Lee, but she was only too pleased to render such secret assistance as she could against England. It was no wonder, therefore, that Governor Trumbull and his Council of War and Safety should be greatly pleased to hear of the success of Franklin and his associates, and to receive soon after "more than twenty thousand stands of arms & 1,000 barrels of powder."

The enthusiasm and sympathy of many of the French people for the American cause was great. The Marquis de La Fayette, then but twenty years of age, upon hearing of the Declaration of Independence became so deeply interested in the just cause of the United States that, against all public and private advice and hindrance, he secretly purchased a vessel and escaped from France with De Kalb and other friends, reaching Charleston in safety, and soon after joined General Washington.

On March 17th, by requisition of Washington, detachments from several Connecticut regiments were drafted and sent to Peekskill.

Vigorous steps were set on foot to fill the battalions for immediate service. As an inducement for men to enlist, the selectmen of each town were directed to oversee the needs of the families of volunteers, that they, as well as the poor, should be supplied with necessaries at the expense of the State.‡

Letters from General Silliman, March 19th, were read of the alarm-

\* Rec. State Conn., I, 193.

† Moore's Diary Revolution, 457. Penn. Journal, June 25, 1777.

‡ Rec. State Conn., I, 194.



ing state of affairs at Fairfield from the enemy's ships on the Sound. At the same time General Silliman was instructed to purchase thirty tons of flax for the use of the colony.\*

Two thousand men were ordered to march to Peekskill.

By demand of Captain Isaac Mills, Captain Samuel Squire was ordered to furnish provisions for two armed vessels to cruise the Sound. One six-pound and one three-pound cannon were sent to the defence of Fairfield, and one six-pound and one three-pound cannon was sent to Lieutenant Aaron Hawley for the defence of Stratfield harbor.†

Joseph Hoit, Jr., and Benjamin Hoit, confined as Tories in the jail at Fairfield, were ordered to be released upon paying costs to Mr. Thaddeus Burr as sheriff.

General Silliman received orders, April 12th, from Governor Trumbull, etc., to keep the utmost watchfulness over the enemy, "supposed to be collecting in New York, in order to push up the North River to destroy our magazines at Danbury & other places in those parts; & to raise his brigade for defence if he judged it needful, & to give notice to the Governor & Council of every alarming appearance of danger in his department."‡

The quota not having been filled promised to the Continental Congress, Governor Trumbull issued a proclamation to the officers and inhabitants of each town in the State, to rally and to use every influence and exertion to fill the Connecticut quota from each respective town, "which could not be neglected without the most imminent hazard, ruin & destruction of the State & Continent, which if not immediately filled, constant rotation of the Militia & Husbandmen must be called off, which would afford the dismal certain prospect of being devoured by a Famine." Every volunteer detached from the militia was offered a bounty of three pounds provided he enlisted until the following January.§

The overseers of the furnace at Salisbury, after supplying the order for cannon and shot to the army to the northward, were instructed to send the remainder to Hartford, New Haven and Fairfield, as the Governor should direct. Great care was taken to preserve the furnaces at Salisbury, and committees were appointed to inspect arms and ammunition against fraud and imposition.

Captain James Smedley, of the brig "Defence," having taken two

\* Rec. State Conn., I, 195.

† Col. Rec. Conn., I, 207.

‡ Rec. State Conn., I, 200.

§ Col. Rec. Conn., I, 207.

prize vessels and sent them into Boston and Dartmouth. Mr. Eliot, the Connecticut agent at Boston, on the 22d of April was instructed to attend to the care, value and distribution of said prizes. On the 25th letters to the Governor and Council were received, informing them that Captain Smedley had taken another prize vessel, "called the 'Grog,'" and taken it into Plymouth. Captain Smedley was reappointed "captain of the brig 'Defence,' and his commission sent to him."\*

Pressing letters for troops to be sent to the northward were received from General Gates, representing the danger he was in from the enemy, and urging the Governor and Council to write to the States of Massachusetts and New Hampshire for new reinforcements.

On the 25th of April twenty-six sail of British ships appeared off Norwalk Islands, standing in for Cedar Point, where they anchored at four o'clock P. M., & soon began landing their troops. By ten o'clock they had landed two brigades of about 2000 men, & marched immediately for Danbury, where they arrived the next day at two o'clock P. M. Upon their approach a small band of Continental troops, unable to cope with so superior a force, securing a part of their stores & provisions, evacuated the town. The British upon their arrival began burning & destroying stores, houses, provisions, &c. Intelligence of their arrival spread quickly through the country. Early the next morning Brigadier-General Silliman, with about 500 militia, all that could be collected, pursued them. At Redding he was joined by Major-General Wooster & Brigadier-General Arnold. A heavy rain retarded the march of the provincials, so that they did not reach Bethel, a village two miles from Danbury, until eleven o'clock at night, much fatigued, & with their arms wet & useless. It was thought prudent to refresh the men & prepare for an attack of the enemy on their return. Early the next morning, while it was still raining, they were in motion. Two hundred men remained with General Wooster & about 400 were detached under General Arnold & General Silliman on the road leading to Norwalk. About 9 o'clock the next morning they learned that the British had taken the road leading to Norwalk. General Wooster pursued them, & came up with them about 11 o'clock. A smart skirmish ensued. Gen. Wooster, who fought with great bravery, was wounded in the groin, & it was feared mortally. By a forced march across the country Gen. Arnold reached Ridgefield about eleven o'clock with his small party of 400, & 100 more men who had joined them in their march, awaited the British, who were soon seen approaching with three field pieces in front & three in the rear, and with flank guards of about 200 men each. Upon discovering the Americans they began discharging their artillery, & were soon within musket shot, when the Americans, with great spirit & bravery, attacked them & held their own for about an hour, having raised a small breast-work across the way, behind which General Arnold with 200 men had taken post, with the rest being posted on his flanks, "who acted with great spirit." General Arnold's horse was shot under him, but he remained unhurt. He had only time to collect himself when he shot a British soldier advancing about two yards off with fixed bayonet. He then ordered a retreat amid a shower of grape shot.

In this action the British lost considerably, leaving about 30 dead & wounded on the ground, besides a number unknown buried. On the American side Lieut.-Col. Abraham

\* Rec. State Conn., I, 212, 213

Gold was killed, one subaltern & several privates killed & wounded. It was found impossible to rally our troops, & Gen. Arnold ordered a stand to be made at Saugatuck bridge, where the British were expected to pass.

At 9 o'clock on the morning of the 28th, about 500 men collected at the Saugatuck bridge, including part of Col. Lamb's battalion of artillery, with 3 field pieces, under command of Lieut.-Col. Oswald; a field piece, with part of the artillery company from Fairfield, sixty Continental troops, & 3 companies of volunteers from New Haven, with whom Gens. Arnold & Silliman took post about 2 miles above the bridge. Soon after the British appeared in sight. Their rear was attacked by Col. Huntington, commanding a party of about 500 men, who sent to Gen. Arnold for instructions & for some officers to assist him. Gen. Silliman was ordered to his assistance. The enemy finding our troops advantageously posted, made halt, & after some little time wheeled to the left, & forded Saugatuck river three miles above the bridge. Gen. Arnold observing this motion, ordered the whole to march directly to the Bridge, in order to attack them in the flank, General Silliman at the same time attacking them in the rear. The British by running full speed had passed the bridge on the Fairfield side with their main body before our troops could cross it. General Silliman finding it impossible to overtake them on their route, proceeded to the bridge, where the whole were formed. They marched in two columns, with two field pieces on the right, the other on the left of the enemy, when a smart skirmishing & firing of field pieces ensued, which continued about 3 hours. The enemy having gained the high hills at Compo, several attempts were made to dislodge them, but without effect. Having landed a number of fresh troops to cover their embarkation, which they effected a little before sunset, they weighed anchor immediately, & stood across the Sound for Huntington on Long Island. Our loss cannot exactly be ascertained, no return being made; it is judged about sixty killed & wounded. Among the killed are one Lieutenant-Colonel, one captain, four subalterns, & Dr. David Atwater of New Haven, whose death is greatly lamented by his acquaintances. Among the number wounded are Col. John Lamb (of the artillery), Arnold, Bradley, & Timothy Gorham, volunteers from New Haven, though not mortally. The enemy's loss is judged to be more than double our number, & about 20 prisoners. They behaved on this occasion with their usual barbarity, wantonly & cruelly murdering the wounded prisoners who fell into their hands; & plundering the inhabitants, burning & destroying everything in their way."\* Lieutenant Middlebrook was killed during the return of the British forces from Danbury.

"Major General David Wooster died May 3rd of the wounds he received in the battle of Danbury, Conn. He was a native of Stratford, where he was born March 2nd, 1711. He graduated at Yale College in 1738. He became a lieutenant in the Spanish war, & was promoted to become a captain of the armed vessel built by the General Assembly to guard the Connecticut coast. He was afterwards a captain in Col. Burr's regiment in 1745, in the expedition against Louisburg, & after its reduction he was sent to France with a part of the prisoners taken there. He afterwards went to England, where he was honored with a captaincy in Sir William Pepperell's regiment. After peace was declared he received his half pay. Upon the renewal of the war with France in 1755 he was appointed colonel & commander of a brigade. Although employed on half pay from Great Britain, upon the opening of the Revolution in 1774 his love of country led him to espouse the American cause. Immediately after the Battle of Lexington the General Assembly of Connecticut appointed him chief in command of the forces being raised; & the same summer he was commissioned brigadier-general in the Continental service. After receiving his commission

\* Connecticut Journal, April 30, 1777, and Pennsylvania Journal, May 14, 1777.



he was sent in 1775 to assist in guarding New York against an expected landing of British troops. He was afterwards sent with his troops into Canada, & assisted in the reduction of St. Johns, Montreal, &c. After the death of General Montgomery he was appointed to the chief command of that province. Upon his return to Connecticut, he was appointed first major-general of the Connecticut militia. He had spent an active winter at the head of a body of men raised to protect the State in 1777, & had only just returned when, on Saturday, the 26th of April, he received intelligence of the landing of the British forces at Compo. He set out for Fairfield without delay, leaving orders for his troops to be mustered & sent forward immediately. Upon his arrival at Fairfield he learned that General Silliman had marched with his forces in pursuit of the British; & following him with all expedition, overtook him at Redding, where he had command of the forces which had been raised, & rested the same evening at Bethel, where it was decided to divide the troops, a part of which was sent off under the command of Generals Arnold & Silliman & the remainder were retained by General Wooster, which he led on in pursuit of the British to Ridgefield, overtaking them about 4 o'clock on the Sabbath. Although he had but about two hundred men under him, he resolved to attack the enemy at once, & led his forces on himself with unflinching courage; but his militia were mostly inexperienced men, & the enemy having control of several field pieces, although his men fought bravely, doing considerable execution, they were forced to give way. While rallying his forces to renew the attack a musket ball from about fifty rods distant struck him obliquely in the back & broke his backbone." An effort was made to find the ball, but without any success. He was attended by Dr. Turner and carefully conveyed back to Danbury, where he had every care and attention. It was soon discovered that the lower part of his body was paralyzed. Finally, alive to his condition, he met his death bravely, having lived and died one of the bravest and most honored of Connecticut's sons. Finding it impossible to convey his remains back to New Haven to be interred there, he was buried at Danbury.\*

The remains of Colonel Abraham Gold were conveyed to his home in Fairfield by his officers and men. His untimely death was deplored by the town and State. Descended from a long line of illustrious men, who had been among the chief statesmen and military leaders of Connecticut, he fell lamented as the scion of a brave race and honored as a wise statesman and a gallant Christian soldier. He died in the forty-fourth year of his age, and was buried in Burial Hill Cemetery at Fairfield. Over his grave is a handsome stone, erected by his son, Jason Gold, in honor of his distinguished father. His silver-mounted sword has been kept in the family of his grandson, Abraham Gold Jennings of Brooklyn, L. I., while his sash and military coat are to be seen in the Trumbull Gallery of New Haven.†

The news of the attack on Danbury reached the Governor and Council on the 27th of April by express from General Wadsworth, "of troops landing at Fairfield & others going up the North River"; and from

\* Connecticut Journal, May 14, 1777. Pennsylvania Journal, June 25, 1777. Moore's Diary, pp. 433, 434.

† Appendix—Genealogical. Hist. Fairfield, I, 370.



Colonel Jedediah Huntington of Norwich, while at Danbury, "of 18 ships & troops going up the North River to Peekskill: & the same night news that Danbury was on fire & our stores taken, etc." General Huntington was ordered to go westward, " & given full power to call forth & order as many militia as he might find necessary, draw up orders & hasten to the Continental troops, etc."\*

On the 29th of April the Governor and Council ordered the officers of the eastern part of the State to call together their companies, and to be prepared for a sudden attack from the enemy.

Soon after General Meigs retaliated upon the attack on Danbury by crossing the Sound to Sag Harbor on the east end of Long Island and burning twelve British vessels, a large quantity of stores and taking ninety prisoners, without the loss of one man.†

On the 4th of May General Silliman was requested by the Governor and Council to order one-fourth of his brigade to the sea-coast for the defence of Fairfield County.‡

The General Assembly met at Hartford May 8th. Captain Samuel Squire and Major Elijah Abel represented Fairfield.

A law was enacted by which the Governor or Commander-in-Chief should be called "His Excellency."§

"The bills of credit on the State & the United States of America, together with the silver & gold passing within the State, having afforded a sufficient medium of trade, & the circulation of the paper money of other states having had a tendency to depreciate the Continental bills, it was made a law that after Aug. 1st no person should receive any other paper money than that of the State & of the United States, under a penalty 'not exceeding fifty pounds & not less than forty shillings.'"||

An ecclesiastical law was passed: "That all such churches & congregations of separatists from the established Congregational Church should have full power to contribute to the support & maintenance of such churches: & be exempted from any tax for the support of the established churches in the State; but 'be disqualified to vote in any society meeting, save only for granting taxes for the support of schools & the education of children.'"■

On May 26, 1777, slaves allowed to enlist in the army upon the following conditions:

"They must procure & pay to their masters such sums as the selectmen judge reasonable & the masters shall be exempt from their future support.

2. They may only enlist under an appraisal from the selectmen, & their masters are

\* Rec. State Conn., I, 214.

† Rec. State of Conn., I, 218.

‡ Rec. State of Conn., I, 231.

§ Hinman's War of American Revolution, p. 141.

§ Rec. State of Conn., I, 220.

¶ Rec. State Conn., I, 232.

entitled to one-half of their bounty in wages. Referred in the lower house to the next session—negatived in the upper house.

Several laws were passed for preserving good order and discipline in the army.

Commissioned and non-commissioned officers, when safe to do so, were required to attend divine service at some place appointed for that purpose; to use no unlawful oaths or execrations under a penalty of being court-martialed, "& be deprived of their wages for one day." An officer or soldier guilty of speaking disrespectfully of a civil or military officer, or joining any meeting or sedition against his company or the military forces of the United States, strike or offer to draw any weapon of violence against an officer, or desert the army, should be court-martialed. Officers were required under a penalty of court-martial to quell riots, quarrels and frays, as well as challenges for duelists and seconds and those aiding therein. Non-commissioned officers or soldiers who should offer violence to any inhabitant, seize his goods, plunder any house or building, field, garden or lot, or should kill, wound or destroy cattle, sheep, hogs, fowls or any other creature belonging to the good people of the State, or should tempt them to loan, give or sell any horse, carriage, victuals, liquor, entertainment or any other thing, should be punished by a court-martial, and reparation be made to the injured party by the offender paying him out of his wages, or by delivering him over to the civil authorities for punishment. No non-commissioned officer or soldier found one mile from camp, or who should lie outside his camp quarters without leave of his commanding officer, failing to retire to their quarters at retreat-beating, or not to repair when summoned to the parade post of alarm or other place of rendezvous, were to be court-martialed. Any officer, guard or sentinel under arms found drunk or designedly make a false alarm and leave his division without permission to plunder, should be court-martialed. An officer who should compel his commanding officer to give up his post or garrison to the enemy, should suffer death or punishment by a court-martial. An officer or soldier making known the parole or countersign, relieve the enemy knowingly with money, victuals, arms or ammunition, harbor or protect an enemy, traitorously decoy or betray a corps, party or detachment into the enemy's hands, abandon any post committed to his charge, or endeavor to induce others to do so, should suffer death by court-martial. Strict laws were made for forming a court-martial for the punishment of offenders.

These laws were ordered to be published in the several newspapers in the State, and one thousand copies of them printed, and read monthly in each town by the officers to their companies.\*

A company of rangers was ordered to be raised for the State, with a bounty granted each man of three pounds for his necessary outfit.

Strong and liberal measures were taken for recruiting the army for a three years' campaign.

A tax of twelve pence on the pound was laid on the general list of taxable estates of 1776, with the additions, to be collected and paid into

\* Rec. State Conn., I, 235, 239, 249.

the treasury on or before the 29th of December. The treasurer of the State was authorized to borrow or issue his note on interest for such sums for immediate occasion, not to exceed seventy-two thousand pounds, payable at his office in Continental or State bills at the end of one year from the date of such loans. No note was to be issued for a less sum than thirty pounds.\*

Two battalions of seven hundred and twenty-eight men each were ordered to be raised for the defence of the sea-port towns and stationed along the coast until January of 1778.†

A great scarcity of salt caused the Assembly to make every effort for its manufacture in the State.

Officers holding commissions issued before the Declaration of Independence were directed to deliver their commissions to the colonels or chief commanding officers of the regiment to which they belonged, in order to receive new commissions from the authorities of the *State of Connecticut*.‡

Mr. Thaddeus Burr was appointed one of a committee to furnish firearms and gun-locks for the army.

It was ordered that every officer and private soldier, as well as marine officers or soldiers, who, by the misfortunes of war should become disabled from earning a living, should receive one-half his monthly pay for life. If disabled but still capable of earning a living, they were to receive such monthly sums as the Assembly might allow.

A State and Congressional *Board of War Record* was instituted, in which to enter the names of pensioners, and to receive the certificate of each from his superior officer.§

General Silliman reported to the Assembly that Daniel Ketchum and Andrew Bennet of Fairfield and Norwalk having deserted the American cause, had, under a flag of truce from General Howe, arrived at Norwalk, "in order to convey their families & effects to other places, with those of Benjamin Jarvis, Samuel Hitchcock, James Ketchum & Nathaniel Williams, who had also deserted their country." General Silliman stated he had signified to the enemy that they ought to desist from sending persons of that character under the protection of a flag of truce, and now asked for instructions in the matter. The Assembly, "judging it unsafe to permit such deserters to pass & repass under the protection

\* Rec. State Conn., I, 240, 242.

† Rec. State Conn., I, 243.

‡ Rec. State Conn., I, 243.

§ Rec. State Conn., I, 246-249.

of a flag of truce," ordered General Silliman "to make it known in the best & most effectual way by the return of said flag of truce, that for the future no such deserters shall be permitted to come into the State under colour or protection of a flag of truce, on pain & penalty of being detained & dealt with according to the laws of the State; that the families of the persons applied for, should not go over to their friends within the enemy's lines, unless an equal number of prisoners not under arms or carried off, be returned in exchange, & in that case no property, except necessary clothing, be supplied to carry with them; & no male person capable of bearing arms should be permitted to go—least the enemy be encouraged to make their inhuman incursions into the country, captivate & carry away families & persons not under arms, contrary to the customs & usages of civilized nations."\*

Severe measures were passed against robberies, which had taken place in the western part of the State.

Thaddeus Burr was appointed one of a Council of Committee of Safety to assist his Honor the Governor when the Assembly was not in session, and given full power to order and direct the militia and navy of the State, etc.†

A proclamation was ordered to be sent by the Governor of pardon to all persons who had absconded or deserted from the State, should they return before August 1 and take the oath of allegiance to the State before an Assistant or Justice of the Peace.‡

Stephen Thorp of Fairfield was appointed captain in one of the two battalions to be raised.

Stephen Thorp had at this time allowed his house at "Mill River, opposite Sasco Hill in Fairfield, to be used by persons who had been inoculated with the smallpox, which proved a source of danger to a guard-house nearby." The Assembly ordered the infected persons to be removed to some place of safety in the northern part of the town.

An appeal was made by about thirty-eight Continental prisoners who had been detained on Long Island since September without money to meet their actual necessities, stating that continental money would not pay them, and that they could not procure coin. The Assembly ordered the Committee of the Pay Table to allow them in full or in part in hard money their full pay, from the time they had been captured by the enemy,

\* Rec. State Conn., I, 251.

† Rec. State Conn., I, 253.

‡ Rec. State Conn., I, 254.



to charge this sum to the United States and transmit the same to General Washington. Among the prisoners was Captain John Couch of Fairfield and several neighboring officers.\*

Captain Elijah Abel of Fairfield was appointed one of a committee to examine into the conduct of several military officers and companies in the County of Fairfield, against whom complaints had been made to the Assembly.†

Major Jonathan Dimon of Greenfield was promoted lieutenant-colonel in the place of Lieutenant-Colonel Abraham Gould, deceased; Elijah Abel was promoted major in Major Dimon's place;‡ Seth Silliman was commissioned captain; Andrew Wakeman lieutenant, and Ebenezer Osborn ensign of the first company in the Fourth Regiment.§ Ebenezer Hill of Greenfield was appointed captain, Lewis Goodsell lieutenant, and Daniel Banks ensign of the eighth company in the Fourth Regiment. || Peter Penfield was appointed captain, Gideon Beardsley lieutenant, and Bille Trowbridge ensign of the sixth company in the Sixteenth Regiment. ¶ Jonathan Silliman was commissioned cornet and Deodate Silliman quartermaster in the third troop of light horse in the Third Regiment.\*\*

The Assembly continued in several sessions until the 7th of June. Meantime the Governor and Council of Safety held frequent sessions during the adjournments. On the 23d of May Captain Samuel Squire, as commissary at Fairfield, was ordered by the Governor, etc., to convey all clothing for the soldiers in his care to some convenient and safe place near the Continental army; to purchase one good wagon with horses for each battalion, loading them with provision and clothing for the army; to employ one trustworthy man for the care of each wagon, horse and cattle; to impress, if necessary, boats, teams, etc., as might be necessary to convey these stores, and to secure from the principal officers in each town necessary guards and protection. Mr. Squire was provided with an assistant to assist the other commissaries of the army, and he was to direct "what quantity of rum & how often it should be delivered to each soldier at a time. He was also required to keep an exact account of disbursements, as well as moneys received. As the troops at Peekskill were in need of supplies, his first attention was to be given

\* Rec. State Conn., I, 257, 258.

† Rec. State Conn., I, 263.

|| Rec. State Conn., I, 266.

‡ Rec. State Conn., I, 261.

§ Rec. State Conn., I, 266.

¶ Rec. State Conn., I, 268.

\*\* Rec. State Conn., I, 277.

to their immediate relief, and to see that the new recruits were properly furnished with necessities as they took the field.\*

On May 29th the stores on board the schooner "Mifflin" were ordered to be delivered over to Brigadier General Silliman or wherever he should order.† At the same time Captain Smedley, who had received his commission and sailing orders April 25th, was given liberty "to consort with other privateers or not as he pleased—with three blank commissions to fill up for subaltern officers."‡

In June of 1777 a committee was appointed by Congress to design a national flag for the United States as follows: "Resolved, that the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation." General Washington accompanied this committee to the house of Mrs. Bettie Ross of Philadelphia, and from a pencil drawing submitted to her his design of our first really independent national flag, from which the British union of crosses gave place to the constellation of stars. It is believed, and with good reason, that this flag was designed from General Washington's coat of arms. It was adopted by Congress June 14, 1777.

Samuel Elliott, Jr., of Boston, agent for Connecticut, was "ordered to sell a large supply of provisions taken on the prize ships now at Plymouth by the brig 'Defence,' " at lawful prices.§

On June 30th an order was given to Nathaniel Shaw of New London, to draw on General Silliman and Thaddeus Burr for five ton of flax.

The first anniversary of the Declaration of Independence was held July 4th in all the principal cities and towns of the Union throughout the thirteen United States; and our own beloved national flag floated from the flag-staffs of the country, and at the head of each United States regiment.

General Silliman was sent a letter on the 7th of July from the Governor and Council approving the measures he had taken touching the marching of the militia, " & advising him of orders sent that day to Colonel Enos of the First Regiment." He was also directed "to procure an exchange of some of our prisoners taken in Middlesex in March, for some of the enemy's prisoners taken at Danbury."||

\* Rec. State Conn., I, 317.

† Rec. State Conn., I, 318.

‡ Rec. State Conn., I, 319.

§ Rec. State Conn., I, 320.

|| Rec. State Conn., I, 344.

Colonel Enos of the First Regiment was also ordered to station companies in all the Sound towns. Captain Stephen Thorp was ordered to collect and march his company to the town of Fairfield.\*

The next day, July 8th, Mr. Thaddeus Burr was directed to purchase a quantity of tow-shirts and trowsers, to be sent to the Connecticut prisoners in New York, to be delivered to the most needy.†

One Alexander Clark, detained as a prisoner, was sent to the care of General Silliman.

The selectmen of Milford were ordered to apply to General Silliman for guns and flints.

A company from New Haven under the command of Colonel Roger Enos was ordered to be posted at Norwich to defend the sea-coast of that place, and to obey such orders as General Silliman or his superior might direct.

On the 25th of July, "Peter Buckley & other church wardens, & Jonathan Sturges, Thaddeus Burr, &c., at the request of the civil authority, selectmen and committee of inspection at Fairfield, that the Rev. John Sayer may be released from his confinement at Farmington & return to Fairfield to his cure, &c." The Governor and Council granted this application, and Mr. Sayer "was permitted to return to Fairfield, & there remain within the limits of the town of the first society of Fairfield, under a bond given by Jonathan Sturges and Thaddeus Burr."‡

On the 2d of August Job Bartram was commissioned captain, David Wheeler lieutenant, and Samuel Silliman ensign of the first company of alarm list in the Fourth Regiment.§

During the spring months General Washington had given his utmost attention towards strengthening and disciplining his army; and having left his winter quarters at Morristown, took up a strong position at Middlebrook, N. J., where General Howe endeavored to draw him into an engagement, which Washington was too cautious to risk. Not succeeding in his scheme, General Howe reembarked his army on his vessels, and avoiding the strong fortifications of the Americans on the Delaware, sailed round to the head of the Chesapeake. Washington, hoping to save Philadelphia, where the Continental Congress held its headquarters, marched rapidly to interrupt him; but after attempting to

† Rec. State Conn., I, 344.

‡ Rec. State Conn., I, 358.

† Rec. State Conn., I, 345.

§ Rec. State Conn., I, 361.

check the advance of the British at Brandywine Creek, and having his army attack in front and on the flank, some of his men fled, while the remainder were forced to retreat. In this engagement Count Pulaski, a brave Polish officer who had espoused the American cause, fought with such gallantry that Congress made him a brigadier-general. Five days after, having rested his troops and inspired them with his own courageous spirit, Washington again offered battle with the enemy, but a violent storm set in and arrested the engagement at the onset; and again his troops were forced to retreat.

After leaving the greater part of his army at Germantown, General Howe entered Philadelphia on the 25th of July. In the meantime Congress adjourned to Lancaster. Washington now resolved to attack the enemy at Germantown under cover of night, but in the darkness his troops became separated and fled in a disorderly retreat.

Flushed with success, General Howe attacked the forts on the Delaware. Twelve hundred Hessians under Count Donop attacked the post at Red Bank on the New Jersey side, but he was killed, his men fell in numbers; his ships attacked Fort Mifflin, on an island in the Delaware; one was blown up, a frigate burned and the others so much injured as to be forced to retire. Land batteries were erected by the British, and by a constant fire on the fortifications they were soon destroyed and the garrison obliged to retreat. Thus the Delaware was opened to the British.

Meanwhile General Schuyler, by his own express, had sent for troops on the 2d of August to join the Continental army at Peekskill, in order to prevent General Burgoyne, who had set out with an army of ten thousand men from Canada, from advancing on Albany and Peekskill. He thus hoped to form a junction with the Southern army by cutting off Washington's line of communication with the eastern States.

The Governor of Connecticut and his Council, then in session at Lebanon, sent a letter to General Schuyler that they had agreed to forward troops to Peekskill; but that the army at the northward would be "reinforced from the continental troops at Peekskill, which appeared much better than to reinforce the northern army with militia on account of the facility of the march & the steadiness of the continental troops inured to service, which rendered them preferable to the militia, who were impatient of a lengthy campaign."\*

\* Rec. State Conn., I, 361.



Ticonderoga had been abandoned in July. General Burgoyne reached Fort Edward about July 27th.

Job Bartram was commissioned captain, David Wheeler lieutenant, and Samuel Silliman ensign of the first company of alarm list in the Fourth Regiment of the State militia.\*

Intelligence reached the Governor, etc., on August 4th "that the enemy had reached Fort Edward, & their fleet at the westward had arrived within the capes of Delaware, which called for their most speedy and vigorous efforts to prevent the mischief designed."†

On the 6th of August General Silliman sent to the Governor and Council copies of letters from General Parsons and Colonel Root with a copy of a letter from General Washington to General Putnam, "informing them that the enemy had sailed out of the Delawares on an eastern course," and requested the militia of General Silliman's brigade. An express from Peekskill also reached them that the army at Peekskill had reason to expect an attack at the Highlands. General Silliman informed the Governor "that he had sent two northern regiments of his brigade to march immediately to Peekskill; also a detachment of Colonel Enos' regiment in Fairfield County; one company of horse from the 3d regiment, & the whole of the 5th"; which was approved by letter to General Silliman. One thousand pounds were placed in the hands of General Silliman, "to be delivered to the commanding officers of his marching militia towards Peekskill," for the purpose of advancing eighteen shillings to each non-commissioned officer and soldier, and the remainder for the contingent expenses of the march. A large sum of money was granted to forward troops from other parts of the State to Peekskill. Flints, guns, ammunition, clothing and provisions were forwarded with all possible speed.‡

A General Assembly was held at Hartford by order of the Governor, August 13th. No person guilty of high treason or other atrocious crimes against the State was allowed bail, but held in prison until after trial.§

Assessors were appointed with the selectmen of each town to assess all kinds of business on their annual profits, at the rate of six per cent., to be added to their poll and taxable estates. Distilling brandy from cider was forbidden until May next. ||

\* Rec. State Conn., I, 361.

† Rec. State Conn., I, 362.

‡ Rec. State Conn., I, 362, 363.

§ Rec. State Conn., I, 365.

|| Rec. State Conn., I, 365.

It was resolved that the Declaration of the Independence of the thirteen United Colonies assembled at Philadelphia on the fourth of July, 1776, declaring the "said Colonies to be Free & Independent States, be recorded at length in the records of this Assembly that the memory of them be preserved to posterity."\*

Two battalions of militia were ordered to be raised from the several brigades, to consist of seven hundred and twenty-eight men each, including commissioned officers, to assist the northern army. One half of the troops of light horse not in actual service were ordered to be detached and held in readiness to march at the shortest notice. A regiment of volunteers of seven hundred men, including officers, was ordered to be raised for the State.†

General Putnam's request was granted, that the troops be sent on horseback to Peekskill, the horses to be returned by suitable persons to assist on their march.

A tax of one shilling on the pound to supply the State treasury was levied on all polls and taxable estates on the list of 1776.

Ezekiel Hull was commissioned captain, Deodate Silliman lieutenant, Moses Sherwood cornet, and Thomas Wheeler, Jr., quartermaster of the second troop of light horse in the Third Regiment.‡

General Silliman was instructed by the Governor and Council, held at Hartford August 14th, "to inquire into a suspected forgery of a permit from General Jones of the sloop 'Sally' to pass from New York to Rye, to carry off some Tory people & their effects from thence to New York."

Captain Samuel Squire was directed to attend the vendue prize goods at Fairfield and purchase such provisions as might be useful to the State, and that he continue supplying the Fairfield County troops with provisions and clothing.§

Thaddeus Burr, as sheriff of the County of Fairfield, was ordered to purchase from the merchants of the town such West India goods as they had in store for the army; and if any merchant did not sell them to him at reasonable prices he was ordered to seize and impress them, and make such payments as two or three indifferent persons might allow.

Meanwhile General Burgoyne had succeeded in reaching the Hudson, and thinking to divert the alarm his victories had given the Ameri-

\* Rec. State Conn., I, 367.

† Rec. State Conn., I, 371.

‡ Rec. State Conn., I, 379.

§ Rec. State Conn., I, 385, 386.

|| Rec. State Conn., I, 388.

can army on the Hudson, sent a detachment of regulars, Indians and Tories to besiege Fort Schuyler at the head of the Mohawk River.

The American army had by this time not only been strongly reinforced at the north and on the Hudson, but General Gates had been placed in command, having superseded General Schuyler, who had been most unjustly blamed by Congress. Gates had under him Generals Arnold, Morgan, Lincoln and others. General Arnold was dispatched with about eight hundred men to relieve the garrison and to defeat the enemy in their design upon Fort Schuyler. So noted had Arnold become for his daring and successful exploits that upon his approach both the English and Indians fled from the beleaguered fort, leaving their tents, baggage and artillery behind them.

Hoping to capture large supplies stored at Bennington, Burgoyne sent a detachment of five hundred regulars, Indians and Tories under Colonel Baum to seize these stores. Colonel Baum was met on the morning of the 16th by General Stark with a force of New Hampshire militia and recruits gathered along his march. After a hard fought battle of a few hours the British were defeated, with a loss of their artillery and baggage. Reinforcements of five hundred men under Colonel Breyman, sent to assist him, were also defeated. In this engagement, it is said, that the British lost over two hundred men and six hundred prisoners, and the Americans about two hundred killed and wounded. "Four brass cannon, nine hundred swords, & one thousand stands of arms were secured by the victors."

When the news of these victories reached the army and the States, a flood of patriotism filled the hearts of every patriot, and many hitherto indifferent or discouraged offered themselves to the army. It was decided to move nearer the enemy and attack Burgoyne at Still Water or Bemis Heights. By the advice of Benjamin Franklin, Kosciuszko, a young Polish officer who had espoused the American cause, having received a commission in the American army as engineer, superintended the fortifications raised at Bemis Heights.

Colonel David Dimon, one of the bravest and most energetic officers of the Revolution, died on the 18th of September, 1777, in the thirty-sixth year of his age, lamented by all who knew of his great worth and promise as a soldier and citizen of Fairfield. His remains lie in Burial Hill Cemetery.\*

\* Appendix, Dimon, Genealogical.

Meanwhile, on the 2d of September, the Governor and Council commissioned Peter Griffin to be captain of the volunteer company of rangers to be raised to guard the Connecticut coast, Long Island Sound and islands.

At the same time, with hearts filled with gratitude and thanksgiving for the success of the American arms, the Governor and Council recognizing: "At this critical juncture when the forces of our enemies are scattered, vigorous efforts by the Divine blessing may dislodge them from their several posts, every one that loves himself, his family, his country & posterity is called to exert himself & stir up his several capacities to accomplish this desirable end."\*

A bounty of four pounds ten shillings was offered to each able-bodied man who should enlist to fill up the two battalions already partially raised for the defence of the sea-coast.

Captain Squire and other commissaries were directed to reserve for the State the hides of beeves killed for the supply of the troops. Economy was practiced to the fullest extent, for shoes and leather clothing were among the great necessities of the army.†

Lieutenant Aaron Hawley of Newfield was granted "53 pounds round shot & 100 Lb. weight of grape shot," to defend the fortifications at Newfield or Stratfield.‡

On the 19th of September a severe battle was fought at Stillwater or Bemis Heights, which lasted all day, in which Morgan's corps against the Canadians, Tories and Indians, and Arnold's division in an attack on Burgoyne's advance guard, distinguished themselves for bravery. A party of men under Lincoln surprised the enemy's posts around Lake George, and laid siege to Ticonderoga, thus cutting off Burgoyne's communications with Canada.

Encouraged by letters from Governor Clinton in New York to hold out, as it was his intention to force his way up the Hudson and place General Gates between their forces, Burgoyne most impatiently awaited the expected reinforcements for about two weeks, but although Clinton succeeded in passing up the Highlands and in reaching Esopus, he found he was too late, and prudently returned.

Meanwhile Governor Trumbull and the Council of War and Safety had renewed their efforts to increase the army of the State for any ser-

\* Rec. State Conn., I, 392.

† Rec. State Conn., I, 393.

‡ Rec. State Conn., I, 393.



vice that Washington might require. Recruiting officers were appointed for each brigade, as well as to secure deserters. Major Elijah Abel was chosen for the Fourth Regiment.\*

Fresh troops were ordered to Peekskill, to be under General Putnam, for the defence of Connecticut " & the other United States of America." Another regiment was ordered to Rhode Island, under the command of Captain Jacob De Witt and Captain Lieutenant Isaac Abel.†

General Putnam having sent an express that an attack was soon expected in Peekskill, orders were given by the Governor and Council to Generals Wolcott, Andrew Ward and Silliman to forward the detachments from their brigades to Peekskill, under the command of General Silliman, with all possible dispatch.‡

A General Assembly was held at New Haven on the 9th of October, and adjourned to Hartford on the 11th. Captain Samuel Squire and Major Elijah Abel represented Fairfield.

An act was passed that the estates of aliens or persons inimical to the independence of the United States of America, who either refused or neglected to take the oath of fidelity prescribed by the State, should not be capable of purchasing or transferring real estate, without a special license from the government.§

An act was also passed "to encourage Fair Dealers & to punish sharpers & oppressors," under which only small quantities of clothing, food and provisions were allowed to be purchased, unless by a license granted by the Governor and Council or the civil authorities of each town, "known to be of good character for probity, public spirit & friends to the freedom & independence of the American States."||

All misuse of licenses, or refusal to accept the State or United States bills of credit, were to be revoked under a penalty of forfeiting double the value of any article sold or suffer six months' imprisonment. Nor were commissaries or any other person allowed to purchase articles for the army or navy, "without first exhibiting a certificate from the Governor & Council, under a penalty of treble the value of the purchased articles & be liable to imprisonment for six months."¶

An alteration was made in the law concerning "Indians, Mulattoes, Negro Servants & Slaves." Under a previous act servants hired for a

\* Rec. State Conn., I, 400.

† Rec. State Conn., I, 407.

|| Rec. State Conn., I, 413.

‡ Rec. State Conn., I, 406.

§ Rec. State Conn., I, 412.

¶ Rec. State Conn., I, 414.

time or slaves set at liberty by their masters or owners, in case they came to want, were to apply to and be supported by their former masters and owners. But now, before a servant or slave was allowed to be emancipated, the selectmen of the town in which he lived, were ordered "to inquire into the age, abilities, circumstances & character of such servant or slave, & if found to be of good, peaceable character & capable of self-support the owner or master was to receive a certificate of freedom, & he & his heirs, executors & administrators were discharged from maintaining or supporting the servants or slaves thus made free."\*

Wilful destruction of magazines, naval or military stores or vessels by any malicious person was, upon legal conviction, punishable with death.

A proclamation from Governor Trumbull was sent to the ministers of the gospel, to be read in the several societies in each town, warning them against the evils of "a bloody & unnatural war tending to profaneness, injustice, oppression & almost every kind of vice—& as virtue is the only foundation of happiness to a free people—& to exhort every person, to avoid oppression, injustice, & every vice; to apply themselves to industry, economy & every moral & social virtue; to pay a due attention to the high obligations they were under to perform the duties of brotherly kindness & charity; to alleviate each other's burdens; relieve the distressed & poor—& to discountenance the detestable vices of monopoly, engrossing, &c., demanding exorbitant prices, considering them as totally unworthy of election to any public office; & as even the vilest pests of society."†

The delegates from the State were instructed "to move the Continental Congress to immediately draw in & sink their outstanding bills, except bills less than a dollar; & to tax themselves in a sum to be ascertained & proportioned for each State by Congress, sufficient to pay the current annual expenses of the war; & to sink part of the Continental bills drawn in, by taxes & the Continental loan office; to lessen the quantity in circulation, & to apportion the whole sum of Continental bills emitted to each State, recommending to them respectively to provide sufficient funds for sinking the same at a reasonable time."‡

It was resolved "to provide a Prison Ship for the reception of prisoners of war."

\* Rec. State Conn., I, 415.

† Rec. State Conn., I, 417.

‡ Rec. State Conn., I, 418.

It was also resolved "to import blankets & coarse woollens into the State to supply the army to the amount of twenty thousand pounds sterling from France or elsewhere."\*

An order was given to print the sum of five thousand two hundred and fifty pounds in bills of two, three, four, five and seven pence; and sixty thousand bills of cash, without interest, of the same tenor of the last issue, payable on or before October, 1782. Captain Samuel Squire was made one of a committee to receive "these bills from the Treasurer & sign the same without fee or reward."†

David Morehouse was commissioned ensign of the Norfield society train-band in Fairfield in the Fourth Regiment.‡

Nathan Seeley of Fairfield was appointed surveyor of lands for the county.§

While the Connecticut Assembly was exercising its usual activity in raising, equipping and sending troops northward and to Peekskill, General Burgoyne had been left by Governor Clinton to fight out his battle with the American forces.

On October 7th his second battle on Bemis Heights took place, when he attacked the Americans with great impetuosity, and was met with a like response by them and was driven back; but rallied and again renewed the attack. So close was the struggle that a single cannon was five times taken and retaken, but the Americans secured it at last, and Colonel Cilley, dedicating it to the States, turned it upon the enemy, who were driven back with the loss of some of their best officers. General Morgan's corps repelled the attack of Colonel Frazier on their flank by attacking the British right. General Arnold, who by his gallantry at Bemis Heights on the 19th of September had the misfortune to have awakened the jealousy of General Gates, and been most unjustly deprived of his command, unmindful of all else but victory, mounted his horse, galloped to the fray and was hailed with acclamations of delight by the troops, who followed him with renewed impetuosity.

General Frazier, who was one of the bravest British officers, was slain. An officer was shot by the side of Burgoyne, who in vain endeavored to rally his men, but found it impossible. Finding himself defeated, he retired to his camp. His intrenchments in one quarter had been forced by the Americans, who had succeeded in capturing a part

\* Rec. State Conn., I, 418.

† Rec. State Conn., I, 431.

‡ Rec. State Conn., I, 428.

§ Rec. State Conn., I, 433.

of his artillery and ammunition. During the night he secretly withdrew his army to a height in his rear, and then retreated to Saratoga. Finding himself in an untenable position, surrounded and cut off from a further advance or retreat, he still held out for one week, when, with no way to provide his army with recruits or provisions, on the 16th of October he found himself obliged to capitulate. He had thus far lost about four thousand men, and the remainder (5,642) of the army of ten thousand, with which he had set out from Canada, were taken prisoners of war. All his camp equipage, cannon, arms and baggage fell into the hands of the Americans. When this news reached Fort Ticonderoga, the British garrison left in charge retreated to Canada, and once more Ticonderoga was in the possession of the victorious Americans.

This victory was joyful news to the United States, and was received with every demonstration of gratitude and encouragement to hope for final victory and peace.

While this victory was being achieved, Governor Trumbull and his Council were engaged at Hartford in carrying out measures for the benefit of the army and navy, and in exchanging prisoners.

Captain Ebenezer Bartram was granted from the State treasury the balance due him on account of his services on board the brig "Defence."

On the 18th of November General Silliman was ordered to detach and send forward to General Putnam two hundred men from his brigade, to join with other companies of the State in forming a full brigade.

The news of Burgoyne's defeat stimulated General Howe to make every possible endeavor to accomplish a victory over the Americans. On the night of the 2d of December he held a council of war at the house of a Quakeress named Darrah, who was a sincere friend to the American cause. Although Mrs. Darrah retired to her room, she took advantage of the privilege offered to learn something of the enemy's movements, and overheard General Howe issue orders for his forces to be in readiness to march the next night and surprise General Washington, then at White Marsh. At an early hour she procured a pass to go to a neighboring mill for a bag of flour, and was so fortunate as to meet an American officer, whom she informed of Howe's design. The next day the British set out for Washington's camp, but upon their arrival found the American army strongly entrenched and prepared to receive them. In vain for three days Howe endeavored to draw Washington from his entrenchments, but not succeeding, he returned with his troops



to Philadelphia. Mrs. Darrah's absence from home occupied so short a time as to place her above suspicion, and it was found upon inquiry that no member of her family had left the house during the night.

Winter now having set in, Washington removed his army to Valley Forge, a distance of twenty-two miles from Philadelphia, on the south-west side of the Schuylkill. His patriotic soldiers suffered great hardships during the eight days' march to Valley Forge over rough roads covered with snow and ice, on which their bruised and bare feet left bloody prints. Washington now found himself surrounded with Tories, and as they were unwilling to accept the Continental bills, with which he was furnished, he found it very difficult to supply his army with provisions, and was forced, by an order from Congress, to scour the country within seventy miles and to seize what he needed in the way of supplies. Meanwhile the British army in Philadelphia readily purchased with gold and silver, at high prices, all they needed of the farmers.

The sufferings of Washington's army during that memorable winter were very great, and need no recapitulation here. The noble soul of Washington was wrapped in gloom, not only to see his faithful army thus deprived of absolute necessities, but, harder still, to find himself censured by the Pennsylvania Assembly for going to Valley Forge, and by a coldness and want of confidence exhibited in Congress in creating a new board of war, and placing officers not friendly to him in prominent places, some even going so far as to propose that he should be superseded by General Gates or Lee; but the last humiliation brought forth a storm of indignation throughout the country, and Congress awoke to a keen sense of their own neglect of duty in not furnishing him with an ample supply of every necessity to maintain an army of patriotic sufferers in the field. Many hours were spent by Washington in supplicating the God of battles to help him bear the great burden of the overpowering situation; and thus he was, by Divine grace, enabled to bear with patience the ordeal he was passing through. There are moments in the lives of such men when God speaks to them in the still small voice of his upholding strength, and lifts them above the sting of earthly reproach, while strong in their purpose to carry out His Divine will. But the dawn of victory had already opened in the north, and soon spread its enlivening rays over the whole land.

Congress set apart the 18th of December to be observed as a day

of public thanksgiving throughout the United States. Governor Trumbull sent a printed proclamation of this order to the churches throughout the State.\*

The Connecticut Council of Safety forwarded in the most expeditious and liberal manner clothing and stores to Washington. On the 10th of December an order was sent by Governor Trumbull to a Boston firm to provide sufficient clothing "for four thousand men, with trimmings crimson, scarlet, buff or light colours for lapels for the same," to send to General Washington; and also to apply to them for a proper proportion of blankets, shirts, caps, shoes and stockings, to be sent to Connecticut by twenty ox or horse teams, with carts and sleds, to bring such clothing to the care of Colonel Joseph Trumbull, subject to orders from Congress; and to fill any extra wagons with salt.†

Three hundred copies of the Articles of Confederation, "lately received from Congress" were ordered to be distributed to each of the towns in the State without delay.‡

The inhabitants of the towns along the Sound and on the Hudson were kept in a constant state of alarm by the enemy, who in October penetrated the country to attack General Putnam and Parson's forces, but were driven off. The next day they attacked Peekskill, but were again defeated. Along the Sound they frequently landed to pillage, destroy and take live stock. The privateer commanded by Captain Smedley and the "Oliver Cromwell" by Captain Seth Harding, with other privateers, galleys and whale-boats, secured several prizes and prisoners.

The cruelties inflicted on the American prisoners, and the sufferings of those confined in the prison ships in New York harbor, where men in health were forced to sleep in the hold, packed with the diseased, sick and dying, without proper food, warmth or clothing, by which several died daily, will always be one of the loathsome and disgraceful blots of British barbarism. The Old Prison Ship, as it was called, seemed but one way of depleting the American army. The few sick and starving who escaped to their friends were but skeletons of their former selves. The brutal and beastly acts of hired soldiers, hired only to destroy and kill, are the natural results of war, but officers high in command are expected

\* Rec. State Conn., I, 462.

† Rec. State Conn., I, 466.

‡ Rec. State Conn., I, 467.

to possess civilized qualities, which should raise them above inhuman deeds to a fallen foe.

On the 29th of October the Hon. John Hancock, who for over two years had been president of the Continental Congress, having resigned his position, passed through Fairfield on his way to Boston, escorted by a party of light dragoons.

1778. This year opened with brighter prospects for the American cause. The victories over the British and the destruction of their northern army had aroused the Americans, after many discouragements, days of gloom among the people and suffering among the soldiers, to a more resolute defence of their country, and to a more courageous and fuller sense of their hope of independence. The vigilance and unwearied labors of the States, and none more so than Connecticut, and no town more active than Fairfield, were now prepared to send into the field thousands of men, well armed with muskets of the best quality, an ample supply of camp equipage, artillery and ammunition. The whole United States united in one determined resolve to conquer their oppressors.

No sooner had intelligence of Burgoyne's defeat reached France, than, on the 6th of February, the French King and his ministry exhibited their delight by sending for the American plenipotentiaries. The indefatigable efforts of Benjamin Franklin were rewarded by an intimation that France was now preparing to recognize the independence of the American States, and to form with them a treaty of alliance. Mr. Silas Dean left France without delay with dispatches to place before Congress from the Court of France.

This was joyous news to Washington in his winter quarters at Valley Forge, and to the whole country.

Governor Trumbull called together the General Assembly at Hartford, on the 8th of January.

Barrack masters were appointed in each town to provide winter quarters for the troops sent to defend the towns, either in barracks, houses, rooms or any other dwelling. Twenty jurymen were ordered to be appointed annually for the town of Fairfield.\*

Congress having recommended to the several States that subscriptions should be opened in each town for supplies to carry on the war on loan office certificates, the Assembly voted to issue certificates to persons ready to loan money to the Continental Loan Office of notes not

\* Rec. State Conn., I, 471.

less than two hundred dollars. Nathan Bulkley, Esq., was appointed to open subscriptions in the town of Fairfield.\*

Orders were issued to fill up the battalions to be raised by voluntary enlistment for three years, or to January, 1779; if not filled by February 20th, "the residue shall be raised by a peremptory detachment of able-bodied men, liable to military duty out of the State, from the towns which had not filled up their quota. A bounty of £5 6s. 8d. was granted to each soldier who should enlist until January of 1779.†

The selectmen and their committees in each town were ordered to furnish each officer and soldier belonging to the town "one hunting-shirt or frock, two linen shirts, two pair of linen overalls, one pair of stockings & two pair of good, well-made shoes; & half as many blankets as had been ordered in April of the previous year." Even when not able to fill this order, "the selectmen were empowered to seize & impress such articles with just payment to persons who could conveniently spare them." If any town should neglect to comply with this order in due time, "they & each of them shall be assessed by the General Assembly in such sum as shall be just & reasonable." Companies of volunteers were ordered to be raised in each of the sea-port towns." One company of twenty-four men, including one sergeant and one corporal under the command of a lieutenant, was ordered to be stationed at Fairfield.‡

Prisoners taken from the enemy, for the safety of the State, were ordered to be confined in prison ships, prisons or elsewhere.§

Clothing and refreshments were ordered to be sent to the American prisoners in captivity at New York, Long Island or elsewhere.||

General Silliman and Major Elijah Abel were appointed two of a committee respecting the situation and contemplated improvements of Yale College.¶

Abijah Morehouse was commissioned lieutenant and Isaac Jennings ensign of the first militia company; Albert Sherwood lieutenant and William Wakeman ensign of the seventh company of the alarm list; Stephen Wakeman captain, Joseph Bennet lieutenant, and Ebenezer Morehouse ensign of the sixth company of militia; Ephraim Lyon captain, Samuel Thorp lieutenant and David Bradley ensign of the thirteenth militia com-

\* Rec. State Conn., I, 472, 473.

† Rec. State Conn., I, 475, 476, 478.

‡ Rec. State Conn., I, 482.

§ Rec. State Conn., I, 474.

|| Rec. State Conn., I, 482.

¶ Rec. State Conn., I, 483.



pany; John Gray captain, Nehemiah Hull lieutenant, and Andrew Barlow ensign of the ninth militia company, all in the Fourth Regiment.\*

The list of polls and taxable estates at Fairfield returned to the Assembly in October, 1777, and January, 1778, were £49,244 10s. 1d., and the fourfold assessments £1,758 10s.

Several cases of persons confined in jail in Fairfield, and other Fairfield men confined elsewhere for treasonable acts, were liberated upon paying costs, the legal fine and taking the oath of allegiance to the State. The case of David Washburn of Milford, sentenced to death by the Superior Court of Fairfield, must have excited special interest. He appealed to the Assembly for a commutation of his sentence, which was granted.†

On the 15th of January Lieutenant Joseph Squire was commissioned captain of marines on the brig "Defence." Captain Samuel Smedley of the ship "Defence" was granted £400 on account from the treasury.‡

The overtures for a treaty of alliance with the United States, made to Benjamin Franklin by the French Court, were happily adjusted to the satisfaction of Franklin and his associates. Dr. Franklin and Silas Dean had been introduced to the French King as ambassadors from North America. "On this occasion they rode in elegant coaches attended with a suite, & with domestics in superb French liveries. Upon reaching the royal court-yard martial music struck up; the French flags were lowered as a solemn salute; the soldiers were under arms accompanied by all the officers. They were received in the inner palace by *Les Cents Suisses*, the major of which announced: 'Les ambassadeurs des treize Provinces Unis' (*The Thirteen United Provinces*). Upon being ushered into the royal presence, the college of Paris, the bishops, the nobility, ministers, foreign and domestic, and ladies arose to salute them. Franklin was observed to weep. The Count de Vergennes approached him, and, by waiving certain forms, immediately presented him to the King, who, *a l'Anglaise*, took the ambassador by the hand, and viewing his credentials entered into conversation. . . . On the 16th Monsieur Gerard, royal syndic of Strasburg, and Secretary of his Majesty's Council of State, waited upon our plenipotentiaries, and informed them, by order of the King, 'That after long & full consideration of our affairs and propositions in councils, it was decided, & his Majesty has determined to acknowledge our independence, & make a

\* Rec. State Conn., I, 485, 486.

† Rec. State Conn., I, 490, 493, 498, 499, 508.

‡ Rec. State Conn., I, 511, 515.

treaty with us of amity & commerce; & that his Majesty was determined not only to acknowledge, but to support our independence by every means in his power; that his doing so might involve him in war with all its expenses & losses, yet he should not expect any compensation from us on this account; that he was not wholly unselfish in danger, but that he felt the power of England should be diminished by our separation from it; that we should make no separate terms of peace for ourselves, & if he engaged in a war on our account, he should ask us, "That we, in no peace to be made with England, should give up our independence & return to the obedience of that government." "

"Upon such principles & by virtue of full power by the King of France to Monsieur Gerard, Secretary of his Majesty's Council of State, dated the 30th of January, 1778, this minister, with our plenipotentiaries, signed at Paris, 6th February, 1778, a treaty of alliance & commerce between the crown of France & the United States of America, almost in the very terms in which the American plenipotentiaries had been instructed by Congress."\*

Congress, well pleased with this treaty, without hesitation at once passed resolutions not to enter into any treaty with Great Britain. About the same time the British ministry enacted two laws, one that no future tax should be imposed upon the colonies; and appointed commissioners to grant them "almost any terms short of absolute independence." The American Congress refused even to confer with the commissioners "before the British army was withdrawn, & the independence of the country was acknowledged." England now declared war against France, resolute in her determination, even at a great sacrifice of life and money, to subdue the States, in which she had hardly a hope of ultimate success.

The Americans were greatly stimulated by their alliance with France, and although their finances were in a depleted condition, large bounties were offered for recruits, and every effort put forth to supply the army with the necessities for prolonging the war. Not one loyal son or daughter even hinted of peace with Great Britain.

Governor Trumbull called the General Assembly together at Hartford, February 12th. Too ill to be present himself, he strongly urged by letter the absolute necessity for a large taxation, "as the only effectual & safe method of extricating ourselves from our present diffi-

\* Moore's Diary of Revolution. Articles of Alliance etc., p. 571. New York Journal July, 6, 1778.

culties, & of giving value to our currency. Our debts must be paid, & all men will allow that it is more easy to pay a nominal sum when money is plenty & cheaply earned, than when it is the scarcest & consequently the dearest article." He laid before the Assembly the absolute necessity of doing away with the regulation of prices at the last convention in New Haven, and to offer good and fair prices to the farmers as an inducement to till their lands; and to merchants so that they might not be led "to risk their fortunes on a small & precarious prospect of gain."\*

Several conventions were held by the New England States to adopt uniformity in prices of labor and other industries, to regulate the rates of State value of money and of bills of credit, and of mutual assistance in the defence of each other, as well as to supply and equip the army in the best possible way.

Acting upon these recommendations, the Assembly immediately passed laws regulating and fixing prices for articles of labor, manufactures, internal produce and commodities imported from foreign parts; and that the various kinds of labor of farmers, mechanics and others should not exceed the rate of seventy-five per cent. advance on the prices they were respectively at in the same places in this State in the various seasons of the year 1774.†

These laws were ordered to be printed and six thousand copies circulated in the towns by special carriers.

An act was passed to raise six battalions of volunteers, "to be held in constant readiness to march upon the shortest notice upon any tour of duty, wherever they might be called until March, 1779." To each brigade one company of matrosses or artillerymen was ordered to be raised forthwith by enlistment of fifty men, including officers, out of the several brigades, to be commanded by one captain, one captain-lieutenant, one lieutenant fire-worker, four sergeants, four corporals, one drum and fife, with four field-pieces, one ammunition wagon and horses, and be furnished with an ample supply of ammunition by the Brigadier-General of the brigade.‡

By an order from Congress, followed by a proclamation from the Governor, the 22d of April was appointed to be observed as a day of solemn humiliation, fasting and prayer throughout the State.§

By request of General Parsons orders were sent to the Assistants of

\* Rec. State Conn., I, 521.

† Rec. State Conn., I, 533.

‡ Rec. State Conn., I, 524-528.

§ Rec. State Conn., I, 536.

the counties of Fairfield and Litchfield to supply or to impress extra teams for carrying provisions from Connecticut to New York or other places on the North River, for the use of the troops under the command of General Washington.\*

Such was the spirit of unrest among many people that a law was enacted to prevent persons in and out of the State from employing so many oxen to carry their effects from place to place, as they not only "lessened the business of agriculture, but shortened the supply of beef for the use of the army." No one was allowed to leave the State or pass through it without taking the oath of fidelity.

Upon the application of Amos Hubbell and others of Newfield Harbor to have the place for their defence changed to one nearer the dividing line between Fairfield and Stratford, it being a better situation for observation to prevent incursions from the enemy, the Assembly ordered General Silliman to station a sergeant's guard near the dividing line mentioned.†

A memorial of redress was presented to this Assembly from the sufferers in the town of Fairfield who, "when the British attacked Danbury had plundered their houses of almost everything they had, & had taken their cattle & horses, whereby some persons were reduced to distressing circumstances, which before lived comfortably." Lemuel Sanford of Redding, Colonel Thomas Fitch and Thaddeus Betts, Esq., of Norwalk, were appointed a committee to investigate such cases and make a report to the next Assembly.‡

On the 30th of March the Governor and Council, who had held several sessions at Hartford since February 18th, commissioned "John Odell of Fairfield lieutenant of a company of twenty-four matrosses." The next day Captain Seth Harding, on the "Defence," was ordered to pay to Justus Jennings of Fairfield, who had lost a leg in an action in Boston Bay, his full wages of £54.§

A town meeting was held at Fairfield, January 2d, and alarm posts fixed to call the militia together, one at the Meeting-house Green in Fairfield, one on the parade ground at Stratfield, and one at Jesup Wakeman's in Greens Farms. At a town meeting held February 2d, General Silliman was requested to order forty-two men to enlist and guard the coast at Stratfield, Kinsey's Point, Frost Point and Compo each night

\* Rec. State Conn., I, 539.

† Rec. State Conn., I, 551.

‡ Rec. State Conn., I, 545.

§ Rec. State Conn., I, 577, 578.



from sunset to sunrise, each man or guard to be paid six shillings. March 25th it was voted to keep up the town guard until June at the east of the town; and on July 1st the civil authorities and the selectmen were requested to order ten men in addition to the former guard to mount guard each night at such places as directed, each man to be paid five Continental dollars each night. At the same meeting Thaddeus Burr and Jonathan Sturges were appointed a committee to petition the General Assembly "to order some vessel or vessels of force to guard our sea-coast against the designs of the enemy during the summer."\*

The efforts of the British to break the spirit of the colonists by destroying our shipping and commerce, by burning and destroying our towns and manufactories, by blocking our harbors and by depleting our army by confinement in their loathsome prison ships, aroused a still stronger and more resolute spirit to drive them from the country. The Southern States, Virginia and the Middle States united with New England in renewed endeavors to place a large body of troops early in the field, well equipped and ready to defeat the enemy. In reality the British had gained nothing but temporary occupancy, which by no means had conquered the country. They had lost heavily in the destruction of their northern army, and they could not fail to realize that their cause was weakening. It was therefore, decided to concentrate their scattered army in and around New York.

Meanwhile the sufferings of Washington and his army at Valley Forge had drawn to a close. Upon hearing of the treaty with France the heart of the Commander-in-Chief was filled with gratitude. His prayers of supplication for Divine help had been answered, and the spring opened with anticipations of brighter days. General Lafayette had been sent with twenty-one hundred men to Barren Hill on the Schuylkill, about twelve miles from Valley Forge, to hold the foraging parties of the enemy in check, as well as to be prepared for any sudden attack. General Howe resolved to intercept his movements, but Lafayette, learning of his scheme, by a skilful manœuvre retreated to Washington's camp, who hailed his coming with expressions of great pleasure.

On the morning of the 5th of May Washington made preparations to leave Valley Forge. He gave orders for setting apart the following day to be spent in grateful acknowledgments of God's goodness and mercy, and to celebrate His divine interposition in the treaty made with France.

\* Fairfield Town Records.

He gave orders to assemble the several brigades with their chaplains to offer up thanksgivings and to have a discourse delivered suitable to the occasion. The firing of a cannon at half-past ten o'clock was to be given as a signal for the men to be under arms, be prepared to have their dress and arms inspected, and be formed into brigades and battalions by their commanding officers. At half-past eleven another cannon was to be fired as a signal to march, and a third cannon fired as a signal to discharge thirteen cannon, followed with a running fire of the infantry until another signal should be given, when the entire army were to give an Huzzah! Long life to the King of France! Then another signal and an Huzzah! Long life to the friendly European powers! followed by a running fire, and Huzzah for the American States.\*

This was a day indeed of great exultation in Washington's army. The hunger, want and sufferings of the winter were forgotten, " & every heart was filled with gratitude to the French King," and every mouth spoke in his praise.

Governor Trumbull was again in health to open the General Assembly held at Hartford on May 14th. Mr. Thaddeus Burr and Captain Squire represented Fairfield. A long list of Justices of the Peace were appointed for Fairfield and the county.†

Congress having recommended the States to confiscate the estates of persons inimical to the independence and liberties of the United States, the Assembly ordered " that the real and personal estates of persons living or belonging to the State, who had gone over to & joined the enemy, or any who should join them after this law was passed, should be confiscated to the use of the State," and the selectmen in each town were required to report all such inimical persons to the Justices of the Peace, for a legal adjustment of their debts after confiscation.‡

Monday, the 8th of June, was appointed to be " a day for a general muster of all the militia & alarm list companies within the State."§

Two regiments of 728 men each and three companies of light dragoons were ordered to be detached from their regiments, militia companies, the alarm lists and independent companies of militia, to be held in readiness to march to the posts assigned them.

Owing to a great scarcity of money, the Assembly voted " forthwith

\* Moore's Diary Revolution, p. 574. New Jersey Gazette, May 13th, 1778.

† Rec. State Conn., II, 7.

‡ Rec. State Conn., II, 9.

§ Rec. State Conn., II, 15.

|| Rec. State Conn., II, 15.

to borrow one hundred thousand pounds in sums not less than ten pounds, at six per cent. interest per annum, payable in two years after date.\*

The Marine Committee, having requested his Excellency the Governor "that a suitable packet be provided from this State to send dispatches to France," it was resolved that the "Spy," commanded by Captain Robert Niles, "be got immediately & made ready for that purpose."†

The selectmen of Fairfield having discovered that several persons in the western part of the State were purchasing a large number of cattle, under the pretext of driving them to New Jersey, but believed to be for the use of the enemy, the Commissary-General was ordered to seize such cattle for the use of the United States.‡

An embargo was laid upon all kinds of grain, provisions, clothing and goods within the State, except for the use of the United States.

A tax of one shilling on the pound was levied on all the polls and ratable estates of the inhabitants of the State given in 1777, to be paid into the treasury September 1, 1778. An abatement was ordered in cases of indigent persons and others of one-twentieth part of said town's quota, not able to pay so large a tax.

Mr. Thaddeus Burr was appointed one of the Governor's Council of Safety.§

Three hundred and fifty copies of an address of Congress to the inhabitants of the United States of America, dated May 9th, 1778, was ordered to be printed and sent to the several ministers of the gospel in the State, to be read in their respective congregations.||

Mr. Thaddeus Burr presented to the Governor, etc., sitting at Hartford, May 29th, an account "for building the battery & barracks, & for mounting the cannon & field pieces at the Grover Hill Point in Fairfield," which was directed to be paid.¶

The movement of the British army from Philadelphia to New York was not accomplished without opposition. General Howe having applied, May 24th, for permission to return to England, his army passed under the control of General Clinton of New York. Howe began the evacuation of Philadelphia with his entire army June 18th. He was pursued by Washington, who had been reinforced during the spring, and his army in a fairly good condition, having been trained and disciplined by Baron

\* Rec. State Conn., II, 16.

† Rec. State Conn., II, 17.

‡ Rec. State Conn., II, 19.

† Rec. State Conn., II, 17.

§ Rec. State Conn., II, 18.

¶ Rec. State Conn., II, 88.

Steuben, a brave and skilful Prussian officer. On the 28th of June he came up with and attacked the British at Monmouth, as they were about leaving New Jersey. General Lee conducted the attack, but not possessing the qualifications of a military genius, after making several mistakes fell back; his troops became paniestriken while fleeing from the pursuing enemy. Washington came up with their rear guard, and angrily rebuking Lee, rallied his broken regiments and led them against the enemy. Although the battle lasted through the day, the Americans held the field when night came on, expecting to renew their attack in the morning. The British lost between five and six hundred men, and the Americans 229. The day having been exceedingly warm, many of the Hessians sank from exhaustion, refused to march in such heat, and deserted in numbers. When morning dawned Washington found the enemy had silently retreated in the night. Clinton and his army marched to Sandy Hook, and from there were conveyed to New York by British ships of war. Washington led his officers and army through New Jersey by way of the Hudson to White Plains, and encamped upon the same ground on which he engaged Howe in 1776.

The Connecticut towns along the Sound now had cause for constant alarm, anticipating an attack at any moment. Special couriers were recommended by the Governor and Council to the New England States to open a regular and complete channel of communication with the Continental Congress.

Meanwhile a fleet of thirteen ships and four thousand soldiers from France, under the command of Count D'Estaing, had reached Virginia, and were received with a warm and joyous welcome. General Gerard, ambassador from France, reached Philadelphia July 11th, and was saluted with a military welcome and expressions of great joy by the people. The design of D'Estaing was to make a combined blockade upon the English at New York, but the pilots refusing to take their largest ships over the bar at Sandy Hook, it was decided to sail and attack the English army of 6,000 men under General Pigot at Newport.

On the 24th of July Governor Trumbull and his Council received a letter from General Sullivan asking for help, as Rhode Island was threatened with an immediate attack from the enemy. Letters from General Washington on the 22d and 24th of July, from White Plains, informing them "that the French Admiral, not having been able to get into New York, for want of sufficient depth of water," etc., was sailing to New-



port, and requested aid to coöperate with the French fleet; that he himself was sending a detachment from his army, etc. He requested pilots for the fleet, and five hundred men to be sent to Providence. The Governor and Council immediately dispatched orders by express to furnish pilots to send off the fleet, and for " Captain Pitkin with his company & Captain ——— with his company at Fairfield & Captain Tyler with his company of matrosses, be ordered forthwith to march to Providence & join the forces under command of General Sullivan."\* A regiment was ordered, August 1st, to be detached from the standing regiments of the State to coöperate with nine other companies already raised.\* At the same time orders were sent to the State agent, Samuel Eliot, at Boston, " to sell the prize goods which had been taken by the ships ' Oliver Cromwell ' & ' Defence ' into Boston."†

On the 6th of August Captain Smedley of the ship " Defence " was ordered to man, fit and clear his ship from Boston, " to sail immediately on a cruise of discretion along the coast from Boston southward."‡

D'Estaing entered the harbor of Newport early in August, and blockading the English fleet forced them to sink some of their frigates. Admiral Byron soon arrived with the British fleet from New York, and D'Estaing sailed out to meet him; but just as an engagement was about to take place a fierce storm set in and separated the two fleets. After the storm abated D'Estaing returned to Newport, while Byron returned with his fleet for New York. The New England militia failed to reach Newport in time to coöperate with Sullivan's forces. D'Estaing refused to await them, and against all efforts made to detain him by Lafayette, Green and Sullivan, he sailed for Boston to repair his disabled ships. General Sullivan was now obliged to defend himself with such forces as he had at command. Meanwhile the British, having received large reinforcements, attacked him on the 29th of August. Sullivan made a gallant defence, but was forced to retreat, and withdrew his forces in the night without detection by the enemy.

Governor Trumbull and Council ordered a reinforcement of six companies to be sent to Sullivan; and fearing an attack on New London, two regiments were sent without delay to their assistance.§

The General Assembly met at New Haven, October 8th. Mr. Thaddeus Burr and Captain Samuel Squire were present as deputies from

\* Rec. State Conn., II, 100-106.

† Rec. State Conn., II, 108.

‡ Rec. State Conn., II, 101-104.

§ Rec. State Conn., II, 112.

Fairfield. Orders were issued that companies from several brigades should be stationed in the towns along the Sound. Two companies, "by peremptory detachment," were ordered from the Thirteenth and Sixteenth Regiments in the Fourth Brigade of militia, to be stationed one month at Fairfield and Stratford.\*

The Assembly adjourned to Hartford on the 21st of October. An act was passed to prevent the growing evil of horse-racing, "as vices ruinous to individuals & detrimental to the public weal." "That the owner or owners of every horse or horse kind employed in horse racing within the State, upon which stakes, bets or wagers were held, should forfeit such horses; & those engaged in bets of forty shillings should forfeit the same in L. money, & in all other cases the value of the bet or wager."†

"October, 1778. An act was passed to prevent the slave trade, kidnapping & decoying from this State any persons free or enslaved, and a penalty for fitting out a vessel for such a purpose levied of £500. Every person received on board as a slave £50. Suspected persons placed under bonds of £1,000, & damages to the kidnapped persons. The second house added, in case of failure to pay bonds, that they should be whipped not less than thirty stripes. No negro under 18 years of age allowed to be sold out of the State without his consent, declared at two different times before two justices, unless convicted of a crime, under a penalty of fifty pounds. All births of slaves since the Act of Emancipation must be recorded."

A tax of two shillings on the pound was levied on all polls and ratable estates in the State given in for 1777, with the additions, to be paid into the treasury by February 1, 1779. The authorities and selectmen of each town were instructed to make just abatements where persons were found not able to pay this tax.‡

The selectmen of the town of Fairfield presented a petition to the Assembly urging a restoration of powder and ball to their magazine, which had been exhausted "by reason of their being on the frontier, & the militia having been often called out for the defence of the State." The Assembly ordered out of the State stores "thirty pounds of musket-powder & twenty pounds of lead."§

\* Rec. State Conn., II, 124.

† Rec. State Conn., II, 135.

‡ Rec. State Conn., II, 133.

§ Rec. State Conn., II, 153.

## CHAPTER XIV

### (PART THIRD)

December 3d. The Governor and Council ordered that the prize money be paid in favor of Captain Smedley, due to the officers and crew of the ship "Defence," for the prizes sent into Carolina, and to draw on Mr. Eliott of Boston for the same. General Silliman at the same time was directed "to fit up a small vessel to cruise the Sound, & also to make suitable provisions to supply a proper guard for the battery at Fairfield."\*

The battle at Newport had not been of any special advantage to either of the combatants. In November the British turned their attention towards the valley of the Susquehannah. Wyoming was attacked by a body of British, Iroquois Indians and Tories. The barbarities practised upon the inhabitants of this beautiful town were horrible. Men, women and children were tomahawked, and endured the most frightful tortures until death came to their relief. Those of the inhabitants who escaped fled to other settlements for safety, but few survived the sufferings of their flight and some were lost and starved in the mountains and caverns, while children died from fatigue and exposure. Cherry Valley suffered in like manner before November ended. An expedition by General Clark of Virginia was undertaken against the western tribes, but he was forced by the British Governor of Detroit to give up the American post at Vincennes. Not long after General Clark succeeded in retaking Vincennes.

According to a resolution of Congress for a general thanksgiving throughout the country, Governor Trumbull appointed the 30th of December to be observed as a day of thanksgiving in Connecticut. He issued a most interesting proclamation to be read in all the churches within the State; "in which the ministers & public officers were called upon to exercise a fatherly, affectionate tenderness & compassion towards the people, by carrying on noble designs & views; to maintain the just honors God hath put upon his law, his gospel, his day, his institutions & the stewards of his house; & to suppress whatever was immoral &

\* Rec. State Conn., II, 167.

profane. The ministers were, as teachers of the law, the messengers of glad tidings of great joy, are to show the law to be holy, just & good; to thunder the terrors thereof against the wicked that they may be afraid to transgress; to sound the gospel trumpet loud & shrill that all may hear & rejoice; & to be examples by their lives & ministrations of the love of God, our Saviour & the Souls of men; that the Holy Spirit might quicken, enlighten & enliven them in their labor of love. Thus our Moses & our Aaron, walking hand in hand, will lead the people in the way of wisdom to happiness here & to everlasting life.”\*

1779. The General Assembly met at Hartford, January 7th. Stringent methods were adopted to compel correct returns of personal property and real estate to be taxed. An act was also passed to compel furnishing necessary supplies for the army to the Quartermaster-General. A tax of two shillings on the pound was levied on all polls and taxable estates given in for 1778, with the additions by April 1st.†

Congress passed a resolution on the 2d of January that the United States should be called upon to pay in their respective quotas of fifteen million dollars in the year 1779, and six million dollars annually for eighteen years from and after the year 1779, as a fund for sinking the emission and loans of the United States to the 31st of December, 1778, inclusive. On the 5th of January Congress fixed the proportion of the loan to be raised by Connecticut at seventeen hundred thousand dollars. The Assembly resolved to comply with this adjustment when the quota of the other States should be adjusted; the money to be placed to the credit of the State on interest of six per cent. per annum, “although the sum was considered more than the just proportion of the State.” In order to carry out this resolution, a tax of three shillings was levied on the pound on the polls and ratable estates within the State given in for 1778, with the additions, to be paid into the treasury on the 20th of May; and a further tax of two shillings on the pound on the said list of 1778, to be paid into the treasury December 1st.

A tax of twelve pence on the pound was laid upon all the polls and taxable estates of 1777, to be levied and paid into the treasury by the first day of April. Abatements were ordered to be made for persons of small property not able to pay so large a tax.‡

Prisoners of war confined in the jail at Fairfield, with those from

\* Rec. State Conn., II, 165.

† Rec. State Conn., I, 172-175.

‡ Rec. State Conn., II, 177.



other counties, were ordered to be removed to the Counties of Hartford and Windham, upon their bond with surety to pay, to be confined in such places with people to labor as the Governor and Council should direct.

A law was again passed for the maintenance of the families of officers and soldiers serving in the battalions by the towns in which they enlisted.

In order to induce seamen to sail on the ships "Oliver Cromwell" and "Defence," it was agreed to pay them out of the prize money they should take, the same dividends after the deduction of necessary expenses, etc., which has been usual "among the crews of private vessels of force of the same burthen."\*

Owing to the enhanced prices for the necessities of life, and the complaints of officers and soldiers throughout the army, who had been but scantily clothed and provisioned, the Assembly ordered that forty-five thousand pounds lawful money be paid out of the treasury by April 1st to the officers and soldiers serving in the State infantry and artillery included in the State quota, " & not that of any other State "; and a further sum of sixty thousand pounds be paid them by the first of December.†

Companies of volunteers for the protection of the sea-coast were ordered to be stationed in each town, who should do the duty of artillerymen, or any other necessary duty. One company of fifty men, with officers, was ordered to be stationed at Fairfield; and, as an encouragement to enlist in this service, a bounty of eight pounds was offered to each non-commissioned officer and private soldier who should furnish himself with a blanket, firearms and a bayonet. They were also to be exempt from taxes until August. The monthly pay was fixed, for a captain, at £18; a lieutenant, £12; a sergeant, £7 4s.; a corporal, £6 12s.; a drummer and fifer, £6 12s., and a private, £6.‡

Two armed vessels were ordered to be fitted out as soon as possible, to cruise the Long Island Sound.

A premium of forty shillings was ordered to be paid to the non-commissioned officers and soldiers who had been in actual service since October of 1777.§

While these heavy taxes were laid upon the inhabitants of Fairfield and the other towns in the State, the inhabitants of Connecticut were solicited to help the impoverished and starving people of Rhode Island,

\* Rec. State Conn., II, 179.

† Rec. State Conn., II, 179.

‡ Rec. State Conn., II, 181, 182.

§ Rec. State Conn., II, 183.

who had fled into Connecticut from the cruelties and oppressions of the British in and around Newport. Donations for their relief were ordered by the Assembly to be taken up by the ministers in each congregation throughout the State. These contributions consisted of clothing, grain or articles of produce of all kinds. Fairfield furnished 1,500 bushels of grain.\*

Stephen Tucker was commissioned lieutenant, David Flint cornet, and Abel Grosvenor quartermaster of the second troop of light horse in the Fourth Regiment.†

During the winter of 1778 and 1779 General Putnam took up his headquarters at Redding, which he regarded as a safe and desirable place in which to winter his forces and enable him to hold communication with the forces stationed on the Hudson, the towns bordering Long Island Sound and the eastern part of the State. His men suffered greatly for want of clothing and comfort, but Putnam inspired them with his own spirit of self-denial and courage.

At a meeting of the Governor and Council at Hartford, February 1st, two lieutenants were appointed to be raised for the company of artillery men at Fairfield.‡

Captain Samuel Smedley of the ship "Defence" was ordered February 17th to accompany the ship "Oliver Cromwell" to sail on an expedition on the Sound against the enemy in company with the Continental ships and troops. "And that the share of plunder, etc., shall be the same as other ships."

On March 22d Brigadier-General Silliman was given an order for 3,000 flints and five hundred pounds of lead; and to be furnished with material for repairing the battery at Black Rock.§

The General Assembly met at Hartford, April 7th. An act was passed for supplying the army with provisions and necessities. The selectmen were ordered to take and send in from the heads of families, under oath, the number of members in each family and the amount of grain and flour in their possession; and after allowing a liberal supply for each family, the rest was to be held by the State commissaries of each town for the use of the army and such of their families as were in need.¶ In fact, the commissaries were allowed to seize, without oppress

\* Rec. State Conn., II, 187.

† Rec. State Conn., II, 192.

‡ Rec. State Conn., II, 213.

§ Rec. State Conn., II, 216, 219.

¶ Rec. State Conn., II, 224.

ing the people, any necessary articles or provisions needed for the army, always allowing a just compensation.

Orders were issued to fill up the several battalions belonging to the State. A bounty of sixty pounds was offered to six hundred volunteers by Congress, who should enlist on or before May; "& be entitled to the same wages, clothing & refreshments as those in the Connecticut Line in the Army of the United States." The State also offered a bounty of twenty pounds to each volunteer. These troops were ordered to be raised by the commanding officer of each regiment and by the officers of each company out of the train-bands and alarm lists of each town.

A general complaint of neglect by Congress to supply the army with money, clothing and provisions had dampened the ardor of the soldiers to re-enlist; and the depreciation of Continental money was a still further cause of complaint.

It was resolved by the General Assembly, in April, to pay the officers and soldiers of the State in service or those who should enlist in the army for three years, "either in gold, silver coin, Continental bills or other articles equivalent, so as to make their respective wages equal in value upon the whole to gold or silver, as such wages were affixed & stated by the resolutions of Congress, September 16th & October 8th, 1776." Larger pay was also granted to the officers and seamen of the naval ships.\*

At the same time Governor Trumbull was asked to request Washington to station one or two regiments of Continental troops in Connecticut for the defence of the sea-coast.

On Monday morning, May 2d, the town of Fairfield was thrilled with the alarming news that General Silliman had been taken prisoner and carried to Long Island. This event is most interestingly told by Mrs. Silliman in her journal to her son Gold Sellick, as follows:

"In the year 1779 he (General Silliman) was by the Capt. Gen. or Governor stationed to guard the coast in the vicinity of Fairfield—having the care of all the out-posts in that county—and his own home was allowed to be his headquarters. In this situation he continued until the 1st of May, when Gen. Clinton, the commanding officer at New York, sent a whaleboat of *Tories* to surprise & take him. At a midnight hour, when we were all asleep, the house was attacked. I was first awakened by his calling out, 'Who's there!' At that instant there was a banging at both doors, they intending to break them down, or burst them open, & this was done with great stones as big almost as they could lift. They left them at the door. My dear companion then sprang up, caught his gun, &

\* Rec. State Conn., II, 228, 229, 230, 231.

ran to the front of the house, & as the moon shone, saw them through the window, & attempted to fire, but his gun only flashed & missed fire. At that instant the enemy burst in a window sash & all jumped in, seized him & said he was their prisoner & he must go with them. He asked if he might dress himself. They said yes, if he would be quick. All this time I lay quaking. They followed him into the bed-room, where I & my dear little boy lay, with their guns & bayonets fixed. Their appearance was dreadful, & I feared the consequences to myself as well as to him, as it was but three months before the birth of my last child. It was then their *prisoner* addressed them in mild terms & begged them to leave the room, & told them their being there would frighten his wife. They then withdrew for a minute or two & then returned, when he asked them out again; they hurrying him he went out & shut the door. After that I heard them breaking the windows, which they wantonly did with the breeches of their guns. They then asked him for his money; he told them he had none but continental & that would do them no good. Then they wished his papers; he said his public papers were all sent abroad, & his private ones would do them no good. Then some wanted one thing & some another; he told them mildly he hoped he was in the hands of gentlemen & that it was beneath them to plunder. With these arguments he quieted them so that they plundered but little. They then told him he must go. He asked if he might go & take leave of his wife. They said yes, if he would make haste. He then came in & dropped a bundle of his most valuable private papers under something on the table, took leave of me with great seeming fortitude & composure, & went away with them. As soon as I heard the door shut I arose & went to the bed-room of our son, Wm. Silliman, & found he was gone, although I did not hear anything of their taking him. I then went to the door & saw them bearing away their *prisoners*. I then sent to inform those at the next house, when they fired a gun which frightened the enemy very much, as they had not got above a quarter of a mile from our house. They took them down about two miles to their whaleboat, where they had left one man, & proceeded on their voyage to Long Island. This event took place May 1st, 1779, & I heard nothing from them in three weeks. After three weeks of great anxiety I received a letter from your father informing me where he was.' I think they were then at Flatbush, on Long Island. In that he told me where to send my letters to him for inspection, as no letters were suffered to pass without. After this we corresponded, but wrote under such restraint that it did not seem to be the thing, but it was better than not to have done it at all. My next step was to look for an asylum in case of an invasion of the town, as we expected. Your brother William coming home on parole, I had the benefit of his assistance. He went with me to North Stratford, & there engaged part of a good house, in case we were obliged to quit our own. But to return & be a little more particular about matters that relate to the capture of your father & brother. There were nine that came over in the whaleboat; one stayed with the boat, & eight came to our house; the eight went down to the boat with their captives, & embarked aboard their boat between the hours of 1 & 2 o'clock in the morning of the Sabbath. They had a boisterous time over, but that did not prevent some of them from casting their eyes on some matters they had plundered from the house, especially a beautiful fusee, a pair of elegant pistols inlaid with silver all over, & an elegant sword, which one of them, who had worked at our house, took much pleasure in flourishing about, & he it was supposed who piloted them to our house. When they arrived at Long Island shore, they were hailed by a Col. Symes, who commanded there. 'Have you got him?' 'Yes.' 'Have you lost any men?' 'No.' 'That's well!' said Symes. 'Your *Sillimans* nor your *Washingtons* are not worth a man!' He then ordered his men to the guard-house with the prisoners. Says your father, 'Am I going to the guard-house?' 'Yes.' When they came there, says your father to the adjutant, 'Is it thus you treat prisoners of



my rank?' He said, 'We don't look on you as we should on a continental General, but a militia General.' 'But how will you view me when my exchange is talked of?' 'I understand you, sir,' & walked out & suppose reported to his commanding officer. Soon after that your father & brother had an invitation to breakfast at a neighboring house, where they went & refreshed themselves. Soon after a horse & carriage was sent for them to ride to New York, escorted by a guard of dragoons. When they arrived there, there was a great flocking to see the *rebel General*; but by & by a gentleman came & whispered to him to go with him, for fear he would be insulted by the rabble. He conducted them to good lodgings, where he was kept until ordered to Flatbush, on Long Island, where he remained until he was exchanged for Judge Jones, the circumstances of whose capture were somewhat singular, & very interesting to us. By all my investigation & that of my friends we could not find any in the possession of the Americans the British would accept for your father. I wrote to the Governor for direction & assistance in the matter; he, too, felt himself much interested, not only for his personal friendship for the prisoner, but for the people, as he said he had not a more faithful officer than he; but he knew of none the enemy would accept for him. At length it was thought best to attempt a capture for that purpose, & Judge Jones on Long Island was thought a proper person, as he was a great Tory; once, I believe, Judge of their Supreme Court. Capt. David Hawley of Newfield kindly offered, I think, to undertake the enterprise. He soon manned a whaleboat, of which he was commander, & set off for Long Island. When they reached the shore of that place they had about fifty miles to go by land before they reached the seat of the Judge, which, I think, was in Southampton. They were now in the enemy's land & must not be seen travelling, so they drew their boat up & hid it in the weeds, & they lay concealed in the day & traveled in the night. When they came to the house they were struck with the appearance, for the Captain said it looked like a castle. I forget how long they were going, but it was about 9 o'clock Saturday night when they came to the house, when they heard music and dancing. Capt. Hawley rapped at the door, but none heard; he then burst a panel out & jumped in & laid hold on the Judge, whom he found in the entry, & told him he was his prisoner. And, as Providence ordered it, there was there a young gentleman on a visit whose name was Hulet; him they took, too, & he served very well to exchange for your brother. They soon hurried them out of the house, & had to pass nigh a guard. When they came here the Judge *hemmed very loud*. Capt. Hawley, who held him by the hand, told him he must not do so, but he repeated his *hem*. Hawley told him if he hemmed again he would run him through. He afterwards desisted, & they went on through the night, & when the morning came they conducted the Judge to such lodgings as they had, which was among the bushes, until the next night, when they went on & reached the whaleboat, I think, the third night, & glad were they to find it, for had it been taken off in their absence they would have been in a woeful case. They then went aboard & proceeded unmolested until they arrived at Newfield. News came to me in the morning that Capt. Hawley had arrived with Judge Jones. Although I was glad the event had taken place, my heart was full of sympathy for him & his family, whom I well knew how to pity, as I had so recently gone through the same trial. And wishing to make his captivity as easy as possible, I sent your brother to invite him to our house to breakfast. He came under a guard. I was introduced to him & he to me. I observed to him that the fortunes of war had brought him here under disagreeable circumstances, & as I could so well sympathize with him & his family, I wished to do everything in my power for his accommodation until the purpose of his capture was effected, when I hoped Mrs. Jones, myself & our partners would be made happy in seeing each other again. But to my disappointment I found him insensible & void of complaisance, & a sullen discontent sat on his brow. He made no

reply, but asked this question, *Did they plunder when they took your husband?* I told him not much. He said, 'They have plundered my house. I don't believe they left my wife a second sheet.' This I was sorry to hear, & afterwards, inquiring of Capt. Hawley, he told me that he held up the idea to his men that there should be no plundering, but when they landed on the other side the men said: 'What are *we* to get if we take Judge Jones? We run a great risk; we don't know but we may be killed. Unless you give us leave to plunder we will go no farther.' Then he saw that the expedition would be frustrated, & he was obliged to tell them that they might plunder. But to return. I got as good a dinner for my captured guest as I could, & my family paid him every attention, but he was very unsociable all the time he stayed, which was only two or three days; whence he was ordered by the Capt.-General to Middletown, thinking our house an unsafe place. Mr. Hulet, who was taken with him, was paroled by Capt. Hawley, & did not come when the Judge did, but came on afterwards, & was exchanged for your brother & went home. After that I received a very genteel billet from Mrs. Jones expressing her great thankfulness for my politeness to her *dear Mr. Jones*, & begged me to accept of a pound of green tea; but to return to my own situation. After your honored father was taken I had a large family, & the care & weight lay on me, but I was enabled to get along from day to day & lived in a constant alarm. The dreadful fright I had the night of his capture made me feel like the timorous roe, & I started at every noise, fearing the enemy, who were often infesting our coasts; but I endeavored to put my trust where I ought. My dear parents then were living, & your brother Joseph was with them when your father was captured, & your brothers John & James were at college; & it was happy that they were not here, or they would doubtless have shared the same fate with your father & brother."

Another account is given as follows:

April 25th, 1779. A boat with 8 or 10 men landed against Old Fort at the head of B. R. harbor in the night & marched up to Gen. Silliman's (Holland hill) & took him & his son William through the broken place in the beach to Long Island, then in possession of the enemy. They were piloted by one of our own (Tories). As they passed over the beach the old 12 pounders at the battery three times distinctly in a calm night made the windows of my chamber shake. We were soon out, expecting the next moment to be a prisoner, but sending to the battery we learned the cause. The next morning the tracks of 8 men were discernible; 2 traced to the house of Ezra Wheeler, the next neighbor, who was tried for life before."\*

The General Assembly met May 13th, at Hartford. Captain Samuel Squire and Mr. George Burr represented Fairfield. Jonathan Sturges was appointed Judge of the Probate Court, and Abraham Davenport of Stamford Judge of the County Court of Fairfield.

A rate of taxes was fixed upon all males from sixteen upwards, and on lands, buildings, cattle, horses, swine, crops, timber, ships, coaches, etc., moneys, merchants and manufacturers, traders, attorneys, physicians, surgeons, mill-owners and tavern keepers.†

An act was passed to regulate the town votes to be given for the election of delegates to the Continental Congress.

\* William Wheeler's Journal.

† Rec. State Conn., II, 256-263.

Dueling was prohibited in the State by an act punishing duelists, "or a challenge to fight a duel should be tried before the General Court, a fine imposed of one thousand dollars, & be forever prohibited from holding any office of profit or honour in this State"; and if unable to pay this sum be imprisoned for one year. Persons acting as seconds and conveying any written challenge were ordered to suffer the same punishment.\*

Owing to the enhanced prices of labor and the necessities of life, "the Assistants' fees for attending the General Assembly were increased to three pounds twelve shillings *per diem*, & four shillings per mile for travel."

The support of the families of field officers below the rank of Brigadier-General serving in the army were also again regulated at a higher rate. One-half of the wages of such officers and soldiers were reserved for the maintenance of their families during their absence.

Pardon was extended to all persons who had left the State and gone over to the enemy, provided they returned and gave themselves up, after having convinced the authorities of the towns in which they had lived of the error they had made, and were willing to take the oath of allegiance to the United States.

Eight hundred men were ordered to be raised to fill up the State battalions to serve to the end of the war. Each officer and soldier was granted a premium of forty pounds who should enlist to serve during the continuance of the war, in addition to the bounty given by Congress.† In case this number could not be raised for so long a time, a bounty of twenty pounds and a uniform coat was offered to each soldier who should enlist until the 15th of January, 1780. A peremptory draft was ordered to be made out of the several companies of light horse of the State, to serve with the cavalry. A peremptory draft was also ordered from the foot militia to serve the same length of time in the Continental army. The quota of men to be raised from each town to fill this order was fixed. Eight men were ordered from Fairfield, while that of Hartford was five and New Haven seven. An additional premium of four pounds was added, provided each non-commissioned officer and soldier furnished his own gun, etc., knapsack and blanket. These battalions were not to join the army of the United States, unless under urgent necessity, and then only in the adjoining States.‡

\* Rec. State Conn., II, 271.

† Rec. State Conn., II, 280.

‡ Rec. State Conn., II, 281, 282.

The guards stationed at Fairfield, and the adjacent towns along the Sound, were ordered to continue in service until January, 1780.\*

The wages allowed officers and soldiers in the militia of the State on account of the great depreciation of Continental money seems enormous. A Major-General's wages was £240 a month, a Brigadier General's £204, a Colonel's £180, a Lieutenant's £144, a Major's £120, etc., etc., and each private's £24. Besides these the rates for subsistence money was set apart for each commissioned and staff officer.† For the maintenance of the Connecticut soldiers in line and the State forces, the treasurer was ordered to borrow from private citizens the sum of £45,000 lawful money, with security at six per cent. interest until paid.‡

Heavy taxes were also levied on all the inhabitants of the State for carrying out the enormous expenses of the war.§

The rapid depletion of bills of credit throughout the country, and the rise of prices in articles of commerce and produce necessary for supplying the army, by high prices paid by the British for supplies, who also took pleasure in counterfeiting our bills of credit, as well as the avarice of inconsiderate persons seeking their own gain rather than the good of their country, led to a convention of delegates being called to meet at Hartford, December 20th, from the States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut and New York to coöperate in establishing a general reduction of prices within their jurisdiction, by laying an embargo on all exports out of each State, except those sent to the army of the United States. By adopting this agreement, and calling upon the other States of the Union to join them, they hoped to raise the value of the currency of the States. This convention met at the time appointed, and after passing stringent embargo laws, they agreed to call upon the other States of the Union to appoint delegates to join them in convention in Philadelphia, January 1, 1780, to further this purpose.

Mr. Thaddeus Burr was again chosen a member of the Council of Safety.

One-fourth part of the officers and men belonging to the militia and alarm list companies in the Second, *Fourth* and Sixth Brigades were ordered to be detached and held in readiness to march at the shortest notice.||

\* Rec. State Conn., II, 282.

† Rec. State Conn., II, 283.

‡ Rec. State Conn., II, 285.

§ Rec. State Conn., II, 286, 287.

|| Rec. State Conn., II, 288.



By an application from General Putnam, Samuel Silliman, Jesse Burr, Ebenezer Knapp and Abraham Morehouse, all of Fairfield, were, as prisoners of war, exchanged for an equal number of British prisoners.\*

Daniel Dimon was commissioned lieutenant and Samuel Beers, Jr., ensign of the fourth company in the Fourth Regiment. Phineas Sherman was commissioned captain, Elijah Curtis lieutenant, and John McUrie ensign of the fourteenth company of alarm list in the Fourth Regiment.†

William Worden was commissioned captain and John Odell lieutenant of the third company of the alarm list in the Fourth Regiment. Thomas Hawley was commissioned captain, Jehiel French lieutenant, and Jonathan Nichols ensign of the fifteenth company in the Fourth Regiment.‡

The sum total of the polls and taxable estates in the grand list from the town of Fairfield sent in to the Assembly, August 20, 1778, were £47.951 12s. 3d., single additions £1.453 7s. 3d., and fourfold assessments £785 4s. This was but about three hundred pounds less than Hartford sent in, and not two thousand less than that of New Haven.§

Liberty was granted to several merchants to purchase a large amount of pork, beef and grain raised in the State for the use of the adjoining States.

The Governor and Council of Safety held meetings during the sitting of the General Assembly. On the 1st of May it was reported to them: "that on March 10th the ship 'Defence,' owned by the State, in returning from a cruise on the Sound, unfortunately struck on Goshen Reef west of the entrance of New London harbor & bilged: she soon after turned over so suddenly that it was said some of the people in the hold were drowned; her guns & most of her stores were saved, but the vessel, it was thought, will be lost."¶ The sloop "Guilford" was ordered to take her place.

Thaddeus Burr, Esq., was given a permit to ship on board the Connecticut sloop "General Stark" provisions for a six months' cruise.¶

Major Elijah Abel was appointed to enlist men for the Fourth Regiment.\*\*

\* Rec. State Conn., II, 289, 290.

† Rec. State Conn., II, 299, 300.

‡ Rec. State Conn., 2, 344.

† Rec. State Conn., II, 298.

§ Rec. State Conn., II, 304.

¶ Rec. State Conn., 2, 347.

\*\* Rec. State Conn., 2, 354.

A petition was presented to the Assembly by the negroes of Fairfield and Stratford humbly begging to be loosed from the thralldom of slavery and be allowed to "rejoice with your Honors in the Participation of that inestimable blessing FREEDOM." This petition was dated May 11, 1779, and signed by Prime, a man-servant of William Samuel Sturges, and Prime, a man-servant of Stephen Jennings, in behalf of themselves and the other petitioners. Dated at Fairfield, 11th May, A. D. 1779.

A report of the loss of the ship "Oliver Cromwell," belonging to the Connecticut navy, reached the Governor and Council June 14th. This ship was cruising south of Sandy Hook with the privateer "Hancock," and fell in with three British cruising ships and a brig. One of the fastest of these ships entered into an engagement with the "Oliver Cromwell," which lasted nearly two hours. The latter made a gallant defence and did much damage to the British ship; but the others coming to her assistance, the "Oliver Cromwell" was obliged to strike her colors to the enemy. The British changed her name to the "Restoration."\* The loss of this ship, "which mounted 20 guns & was manned by about 130 men," with the loss of the "Defence," was very great to the State, but more particularly to the towns along the Sound. The question has sometimes been asked why the coast towns were left so unprotected in 1779. The loss of these fine naval ships, which had been engaged in many battles and taken valuable prizes, subject as they always were to be taken by the enemy, gives an answer to such inquiries.

On the 17th of June Lieutenant-Colonel Noadiah Hooker, who, commanded a detachment of five hundred men for the protection of Stamford, was ordered, if cartridges were needed, to apply to the magazine at Fairfield, "lately under the care of Brigadier-General Silliman."†

On June 18th Mr. Thaddeus Burr was given blank commissions to fill for the names of the commander and officers of the "Guilford," with Captain Smedley, Jas. Squire, or such other as might be properly recommended.‡

Intelligence reached the Governor and Council, July 7th, then sitting at Lebanon, of an attack by the enemy on New Haven early on the morning of May 5th. Two hundred men were ordered to proceed without delay to the assistance of New Haven. The following day, July 8th, they received news that after a terrible attack by fire, plunder and rapine,

\* Rec. State Conn., II, 352.

† Rec. State Conn., II, 353.

‡ Rec. State Conn., II, 354.

"the enemy had left New Haven & landed at Fairfield."\* Orders were forthwith given to Major-General Wolcott and Brigadier-General Ward to march to the relief of Fairfield if needed. On the 9th Lieutenant-Colonel Hezekiah Wylls reported to them the landing of the British and burning the town of Fairfield; & that they had re-embarked probably for New London."

Alas, the order given to Generals Wolcott and Ward was too late, for Fairfield, with its fine churches, new court-house and stately mansions, was in ashes. From the overlooking hills of Greenfield, to which many of her weeping, terror-stricken inhabitants had fled for shelter, they looked down upon the ascending smoke of their burning homes. The following account is given by an eye-witness:

"About 4 o'clock A. M. on the 7th of July, the British fleet off Fairfield was announced by the firing of a cannon at Grover's Hill. The fleet appeared to be sailing for New York. A thick fog came on until between 9 & 10 A. M., which, when cleared, the fleet was discovered anchoring off Kenzie's Point."† About 4 P. M. they began to land, and marched along the beach until they came to a lane opposite the centre of the town, through which they entered the town and paraded in three divisions on the Green. They were commanded by Sir George Collier by sea and Generals Tryon and Garth by land.

The surprise of the British forces landing and appearing in the town found the inhabitants unprepared for resistance. Upon reaching the Meeting-house Green a proclamation was posted, which had been prepared by Commodore Sir George Collier and Major-General William Tryon, calling upon all the inhabitants to swear allegiance to the King of Great Britain.

"That owing to their delusion in hoping for independence they were deceiving themselves; that the existence of a single habitation on your defenceless coast ought to be a constant proof of your ingratitude. Therefore we offer you a refuge against the distress which you universally acknowledge broods with increasing & intolerable weight over all your country; & that whosoever shall be found, & remain in peace at his usual place of residence, shall be shielded from any insult either to his property, excepting such as bear offices, either civil or military, under your present usurped government, of whom it will be further required that they shall give proof of their penitence & voluntary submission, when they shall partake of the like immunity. But those whose folly & obstinacy may slight this

\* Rec. State Conn., II, 356.

† Kenzie's Point lies east of Mill River and the Breakwater at Southport at the foot of Sasqua Hill.

favorable warning must take notice that they are not to expect a continuance of that lenity which their inveteracy would not now render blameless."

To this proclamation, Colonel Whiting, who was in command of the troops at Fairfield, returned the following reply: "Connecticut has nobly dared to take up arms against the cruel despotism of Britain, and as the flames have now preceded your flag, they will persist to oppose to the utmost that power exerted against injured innocence."

While the British were advancing on the town the militia gathered their small forces as quickly as possible on the hills above the green. "Here, with a small field piece & their muskets, for awhile they annoyed the advancing enemy with round & grape-shot, but the latter formed & quickly advanced, while the Fairfield militia retired to an eminence commanding Beach-lane & the Green, where, joined by a number from the surrounding country, they continued to assail the invaders, who were also considerably galled by the cannon from Fort Black Rock on Grover's Hill. Parties of women & children fled to Greenfield Hill, but a few women remained to protect their houses & valuables. Hessians in small companies were first let loose to plunder & for rapine. Every house was entered, desks, trunks, chests & closets were opened, & everything of value taken. Women were robbed of their buckles, rings, bonnets & aprons. Looking glasses, china & furniture were slashed & broken to pieces, & women insulted with the foulest language, their lives threatened & bayonets presented to their breasts.

"A party of refugees, in revenge for their confiscated estates, plundered & destroyed whatever they could find, but were not so abusive to the women.

"The British came last; & while some of their officers seemed to pity the misfortunes of the people, made the excuse that they had no other way to subdue the country. Some of the troops were exceedingly abusive to the women; but by a vigorous resistance the women protected themselves, although obliged to submit to the most indelicate & rough treatment, & some continued to bear the scars & bruises of their assailants.

"About an hour before sunset the burning of the houses & buildings began. The house of Josiah Jennings\* was the first set on fire. In the evening the house of Elijah Abel, Esqr., Sheriff of the county, with a few others; & during the night several houses on the main street were set on fire. Entreaties from men & women to Tryon, begging him to spare their houses, were joined by the Rev. Mr. Sayer, a clergyman zealous in the cause of the British from the S. P. G. The house of Mr. Thaddeus Burr, writer of the above description, was spared by Tryon's consent, who treated the inhabitants with as much humanity as his errand would admit. At sunrise several houses were standing; but in about two hours the conflagration became general. The burning pirates carried on their business with horrible alacrity, headed by *two or three persons*, who were born and bred in the neighboring towns. All the town from the bridge towards Stratford to the Mill River (a few houses excepted) was consumed.

About eight o'clock the enemy sounded a retreat. The Congregational meeting-house and the Church of England, which had been spared by the entreaties of Mr. Sayer, afforded some pleasure amidst our woe; but the rear guard, consisting of a band of the vilest that was ever let loose among men, set fire to everything which General Tryon had left. The large and elegant meeting-house, the ministers' houses, Mr. Burr's house, and other houses which had received protection were burned. They tore Tryon's papers of

\* Isaac Jennings.



protection in pieces, abused the women shamefully and ran off in very disgraceful manner. Happily our men came in and extinguished the flames in several houses, so that we were not entirely destroyed. This rear were chiefly Germans, called Jagers, who carried small rifle guns and fought in a skulking manner, much like our Indians.

"The enemy sent a row-galley to silence the fort on Grover's Hill, between which & the fort a constant firing was kept up all night. Attempts were made to take it by parties of troops, but Lieutenant Jarvis, who had but twenty-three men besides himself, bravely and obstinately defended it. The militia followed the incendiaries to the place of embarkation, where they galled them considerably. About twelve o'clock the cruel foe embarked, and about 2 P. M. set sail for Long Island. Many killed on both sides. Several prisoners were carried away, but no one of distinction. Old Mr. Solomon Sturgis, an Irish servant of Mr. Penfield, and an old negro man belonging to Mr. Jonathan Lewis, were put to the bayonet. Mr. Job Bartram was shot through the breast, the ball came out just under his shoulder-blade; he fought bravely, as did also others."\*

Instead of sailing to New London, as it had been thought they would, on the morning of the 8th the British landed at Mill River (Southport), where a small battery had been raised, where they plundered and burned eight houses and out-buildings, destroying furniture and whatever they could lay their hands upon.

They then cast anchor off Compo and landed at Green's Farms, where they burned thirteen houses, with their church.

The following account is also given from an eye-witness:

"July 7th, at 7 in the morning, the fog clearing off, the enemy's fleet, just returned from plundering New Haven, appeared. Three guns announced an alarm—everyone busy in moving or throwing their things out of doors—about 11 o'clock 1,600 regular troops landed at the foot of the bar on town beach. Isaac Jarvis commanded the battery at the point of Grover's hill, Black Rock, who, as soon as the British turned to go up the beach lane fired a 12-pounder with ball & grape-shot, & kept it going till it was so hot you could hardly bear your hand thereon. As they approached the parade, a field piece let go a ball & grapes through them. I was at that time on Toilsome hill, having been just above with my father to drive cattle to our woodland, to keep them from the enemy. As we arrived at Black Rock it was with no pleasant sensation we heard the firing back towards Barlow's-plain, and seemed to be in danger of being hemmed in—this, however, we prevented by taking up the upper bridge. Black Rock people soon assembled on Grover's hill, among whom were several females, where we could see the enemy marching up. A continual cracking from near Round-hill was kept up the remainder of the afternoon, & sometimes from a field piece. The first building that appeared on fire was the guard-house at Kenzy's Point; next one at Barlow's-plain. You might from Black Rock see the fire shine through the windows & presently the fire on the outside. The town burnt all night—a cloud seemed to remain fixed in the west, from which issued frequent flashes of lightning; this joined to many a column from the flaming buildings, & frequent discharges of cannon & musketry on the British guard placed around the town; the poor inhabitants, with no shelter many of them but the canopy of heaven, with no clothing but what they had on; wives separated from their husbands, & exposed to the indecencies of an infuriated soldiery, rendered truly diabolical by the spirits they found in plenty in the town, formed a scene altogether so shocking that Fairfield will never see again, nor her present silken sons & daughters can form any conception of. There were some instances of great bravery among the inhabi-

\* New London Gazette, Aug. 4. Frank Moore's Diary of the Revolution.

tants of Fairfield. A Mr. Tucker fired from his shop on the parade at the whole army only a few rods distant, & was wounded by them in the shoulder & taken prisoner. Mr. Parsons fired from a chamber into the road & killed a British officer; then running out the back door made his escape. The enemy coming into the house found an old negro bed-ridden; they said it was him, he declared it was not; they put the bayonet into him & burnt the house, next day my brother saw him about half burnt up & a beam lying on him. Parsons after this taking a prisoner was conducting him away, when he was taken prisoner himself. . . . Joseph Gold, a very old man & feeble, going off, stopped at a spring to drink; they commanded him to stop; he would not; they shot him. Several women stayed in town to save their houses; but were so frightened, they said they would never stay again. Jonathan Bulkley, living on the Green, stayed, got a protection from General Tryon & saved his house & three adjoining houses. . . . July 8th. A Row-Galley mounting an 18-pounder of brass lay  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile from the Battery, & fired upon it, sending some shot over the hill; & the Battery firing on them, & hallooing with a speaking trumpet to turn their broadside towards them & they would give it to them. Isaac Jarvis commanded at the Battery. Had he been a coward 10 more houses would have been burnt; Squire's, Burr's, Silliman's, Halberton's, Fowler's, Chauncey's, Widow Wheeler's, Ichabod Wheeler's, E. Wheeler's, Bartram's.

"About noon the enemy returned on board at Kenzy's Point, & were pursued through the burning houses by the enraged inhabitants, and at Sandy Lane the roar of the small arms was continued like the roll of a drum. Our people would have paid them as they were embarking had they not levelled all the stone walls near the shore where our men might get behind, & drew up their armed vessels to keep off the Americans. It is said the Fairfield people fought much better than they did at New Haven or Norwalk, which was burnt soon after. . . . About 40 of the enemy were found dead & 8 or 10 of ours. No doubt many were wounded & carried off with them, for about a fortnight after, when on guard at the point, I observed the remains of one washed out of the sand where they had buried him. Eighty dwelling-houses, besides barns, stores, etc., were consumed. A Presbyterian meeting-house, Episcopalian Church & a Court-house, Green's Farms with their meeting-house & Mill river were burnt at the same time. Eleven houses were left standing, some of them extinguished by our people, who followed close at the heels of the English, & afforded a refuge to the poor inhabitants from a hard succeeding winter, the most terrible but one (1740) seen since the settlement of New England. The severe cold quieted in some measure our fears from an attack, & made the enemy in New York tremble in their turn for fear our men should march on the ice & attack them—& affording us a long season of excellent sleighing. Thus graciously did a kind Providence favour & defend us from an unrelenting foe, till they were tired out by the contest. . . . The Sabbath after Mr. Eliot preached (from 'Our holy & our beautiful house, &c.') at Holland Hill, where Fairfield people assembled, not daring to meet near the shore for fear of being taken prisoners, so fearful were they then & long after, they could hardly sleep in their beds. My father had a place for his silver tankard & some silver therein in a stone wall. Many a time he has gone in a dark night with his gun to see if no enemy's boat came over the beach. Sometimes very few guards at the Battery or anywhere else. Strange that the enemy did not burn us in the four long years that the war lasted after this time. I listed as a soldier in the Guard (Upper Wharf) from May 16th till July 7th, when Fairfield was burnt, being 16 years of age. We had a double fortified 3 pounder, which sent a shot over a boat of the enemy's, sounding at the broken place of the beach."\*

"It is related that when Fairfield was attacked by the British, Colonel Whiting, the

\* William Wheeler's Journal.

Commandant, having withdrawn the Americans to the Round Hill, north of the village, called for a captain & 30 men to volunteer for the purpose of reconnoitring the enemy; that Capt. Thomas Nash immediately stepped forth, followed by more than 100 men. The Colonel would allow only 30 to go. However, more fell in after they left the hill. Capt. Nash advanced to the fence north of the street, near where the meeting-house now stands, & ordered his men to lie behind the fence in the tall vegetation, until the enemy were near the centre of the street, when, as he gave the word, they were to rise & *fire, load and fire*, & then run. This they did with such effect, & so unexpectedly, that none of his party were injured until they began to ascend the rising ground towards the north, where one was killed. Afterwards, when a squad of the enemy approached to burn his house at Green's Farms, he alone, or with but little help, dragged the company field piece to a rising ground near the house, loaded it with *grape*, & fired upon them. They, suspecting he had a company to sustain him in so daring an act, retreated, & thus his home was saved. It is yet standing.

"At another time, being on a scout in the night, with only three men, he discovered a whale-boat secreted on the shore, which he thought indicated an enemy near. He therefore stoved in the boat, & searched for the foe. Perceiving a faint light from the window of a cabin in a cornfield, he ordered his *army of three* to pass rapidly round the cabin, making all the noise they could with their muskets, against the building, by which the inmates deemed themselves surrounded by a real force. Capt. Nash then approached the window & told them to hand out their arms, & he would spare their lives. They complied & handed out 16 muskets, which he secured & told them to lie down until morning, when it appeared that he & his three men had surrounded & taken 15 Tories & one British soldier."\*

*Captain Jarvis's Guard at Black Rock Fort.*

Captain Isaac Jarvis, Colonel Elijah Hill, Captain David Jarvis, Chauncey Downs, Ezra Wheeler, David Sherwood, John Lyon, Daniel Wilson, Silas Hawley, Joseph Gold, Samuel Patchen, Nehemiah Burr, John Meeker, Nathan Jennings, John Wilson, Huldah Mason, James McNay, Nehemiah Rose, William Sturges, William Hawley, Abraham Parritt, Daniel Burr, Benjamin Meeker, Robert Walch, Nathaniel Wilson, Jesse Burr, Fairweather Brothwell.†

"This guard not only guarded the fort but Penfield Mills, the fort overlooking the mills which were near the mouth of the Unquowa River. These all important mills were well looked after, as James Penfield baked several barrels of flour daily for the army. Besides the guards at the fort a home guard was stationed around them night & day."‡

The following "Letter from the Rev. Andrew Eliot to the Rev. John Eliot of Boston, concerning the burning of Fairfield in July, 1779," is to be found in the Massachusetts Historical Collection:

"FAIRFIELD, July 15, 1779.

"Dear Brother:

"I sit down to write to you some account of the sad and awful scene which has been exhibited in this once pleasant & delightful town, now, alas! a heap of ruins, a sad spectacle of desolation & woe!

"It was in the beginning of wheat harvest, a season of extraordinary labor & fes-

\* Appendix, Vol. I—Nash, Genealogical.

† Connecticut War Records.

‡ Diary of William Wheeler of Black Rock.

tivity; a season which promised the greatest plenty that had been known for many years if within the memory of man. Never did our fields bear so ponderous a load, never were our prospects, with regard to sustenance, so bright.

"The British fleet & army, with the American refugees that had possessed and plundered New Haven, set sail for that distressed place on the 6th instant.

"About four o'clock the next morning, the approach of the fleet was announced by the firing of a gun from a small fort we have on Grover's Hill, contiguous to the Sound. They seemed, however, to be passing by. And about seven o'clock we with pleasure beheld them all to the westward of us steering, as we thought, to New York. A thick fog came on, which entirely deprived us of the sight of them, till between the hours of nine & ten, when the mist clearing away, we beheld the whole fleet under our western shore, & some of them close to Kensie's Point. They presently came to anchor; & lay till about four in the afternoon, when they began to land their troops a little to the east of Kensie's Point, at a place called the pines. From thence the troops marched along the beach until they came to a lane opposite the centre of the town, through which they proceeded; & in about an hour paraded in their division on the green, between the meeting-house and court-house. From thence they detached their guards, & divided into small parties, proceeded to their infernal business. Their commanding officer was Sir George Collier by sea, & Generals Tryon & Garth by land. The approach of the fleet was so sudden, that but few men could be collected, though the alarm gun was fired immediately on the dissipation of the fog. There was no thought of opposing their landing, as our force was nothing to theirs. Our little party, however, posted themselves so as to annoy them to the best advantage, expecting they would land at the point. When our people found them landing on the left, & marching in the rear to take possession of the town, they immediately retreated to the courthouse; & as the enemy advanced from the Beach lane, they gave them such a warm reception with a field piece which threw both round & grape shot, & with their musketry, as quite disconcerted them for some time. The column, however, quickly recovered its solidity, & advancing rapidly, forced our small body to retreat to the heights, back of the town, where they were joined by numbers coming in from the country. The enemy were also galled very much as they turned from the beach to the lane, by the cannon which played from Grover's Hill.

"The town was almost cleared of inhabitants. A few women, some of whom were of the most respectable families & characters, tarried with a view of saving their property. They imagined their sex & character would avail to such a purpose. They put some confidence in the generosity of an enemy who were once famed for generosity & politeness; & thought that kind treatment & submissive behaviour would secure them against harsh treatment and rough usage. Alas! they were miserably mistaken & bitterly regretted their confidence & presumption.

"The Hessians were first let loose to rapine & plunder. They entered houses, attacked the persons of Whig & Tory indiscriminately; breaking open desks, trunks, closets, & taking away everything of value. They robbed women of their buckles, rings, bonnets, aprons & handkerchiefs. They abused them with the foulest and most profane language, threatened their lives without the least regard to the most earnest cries & entreaties. Looking glasses, china and all kinds of furniture, were dashed to pieces.

"Another party that came on were American refugees, who, in revenge for their confiscated estates, carried on the same direful business. They were not, however, so abusive to the women as the former, but appeared very furious against the town & county. The Britons, by what I could learn, were the least inveterate: some of the officers seemed to pity the misfortunes of the country, but in excuse said that they had no other



way to gain their authority over us. Individuals among the British troops were, however, exceedingly abusive, especially to women. Some were forced to submit to the most indelicate & rough treatment, in defence of their virtue, & now bear the bruises of horrid conflict.

"About an hour before sunset the conflagration began at the house of Mr. Isaac Jennings, which was consumed, with the neighboring buildings. In the evening the house of Elijah Abel, Esq., was consumed with a few others. In the night several buildings in the main street. General Tryon was in various parts of the town plot, with the good women begging & entreating him to spare their houses. Mr. Sayre, the Church of England missionary, a gentleman firmly & zealously engaged in the British interest, & who had suffered considerably in their cause, joined with them in their entreaties; he begged the General to spare the town, but was denied. He then begged that some few houses might be spared, as a shelter for those who could provide habitations no where else. This was denied also. At length Mr. Tryon consented to save the buildings of Mr. Burr and the writer of this epistle. Both had been plundered ere this. He said likewise that the houses of public worship should be spared. He was far from being in a good temper during the whole affair. General Garth at the other end of the town, treated the inhabitants with as much humanity as his errand would admit.

"At sunrise some considerable part of the town was standing; but in about two hours the flames became general. The burning parties carried on their business with horrid alacrity, headed by one or two persons who were born & bred in the neighboring towns. All the town from the bridge by Colonel Gold's to the Mill River, a few houses excepted escaped, was a heap of ruins.

"About eight o'clock the enemy sounded a retreat. We had some satisfaction, amidst our sorrow & distress, to see that the meeting-house and a few other buildings remained. But the rear guard, consisting of a banditti, the vilest that was ever let loose among men, set fire to everything which General Tryon had left; the large & elegant meeting-house, the minister's houses, Mr. Burr's and several other houses, which had received protection. They tore the protection to pieces, damned Tryon, abused the women most shamefully, & then ran off in a most disgraceful manner. Happily our people came in & extinguished the flames of several houses; so that we are not entirely destitute.

"The rear guard which behaved in so scandalous a manner were chiefly German troops, called Yagers. They carry a small rifle gun, & fire in a skulking manner, like our Indians. They may be properly called sons of plunder & devastation.

"Our people on the height back of the town were joined by numbers, but not equal to the numbers of the enemy. They were skirmishing all the evening, part of the night, & the next morning. The enemy were several times disconcerted & driven from their outposts. Had they continued longer in the town it must have been fatal to them, for the militia were collecting from all parts.

"Our fort yet stands. The enemy sent a row-galley to silence it, & there was constant firing between them all night. One or two attempts were made to take it by parties of troops, but it was most bravely & obstinately defended by Lieutenant Isaac Jarvis of the town, who had but twenty-three men besides himself.

"The militia followed these bloody incendiaries to the place of embarkation, & galled them considerably. The embarkation took place about twelve o'clock, & they set sail for Long Island about two or three in the afternoon.

"Many were killed on both sides. The number cannot be ascertained. They carried off some prisoners, but no person of distinction.

"One particular I would mention. After Tryon had begun to burn, he sent out the

proclamation which you have in the Hartford paper. In the midst of hostilities, while the flames were raging & bullets flying, who should come out with the flag but Mr. Sayre. A spirited answer was sent in; & the people were so enraged that hostilities should be going on in the time of negotiation, & that Mr. Sayre should be the bearer of such an insulting proclamation, & at such a time, that the said gentleman was obliged to quit the town when the enemy left it. His whole family were obliged to go with him, leaving the greatest part of their substance behind, which became fuel for the flames, indiscriminately scattered by the rear guards. The reply which General Tryon made to Mr. Sayre when he asked to go with him was, 'You may go on board the ship, sir, but I cannot promise you any help or assistance.'

"The Church of England building was consumed, but by whom, or at what time, I am unable to say.

"Unconnected with them, unsolicited on my part, through the intercession of Mr. Sayre, my house & property, received a protection in General Tryon's own handwriting. A sentinel was placed there some part of the time. But sad experience convinced me to how little purpose all this was. My property was plundered, my house and furniture all consumed, though a lady was so kind as to show them the protection, which, like others, was torn in pieces by the Yagers.

"Our friend Joseph Bartram was shot through the breast; old Mr. Solomon Sturgis, an Irish servant of Mr. Penfield, & a negro man belonging to Mr. Lewis, were put to death by the bayonet.

"The distress of the poor was inexpressible. A most pleasant and delightful town in flames! What a scene did the 8th of July present!

"But I must forbear. Everything I have written you may depend upon as a fact; my pen has not been guided by prejudice whatever my feelings are; & should you publish this letter, every reader may be assured that there was not the least diversion from what actually took place upon this melancholy occasion.

"Yours, &c.,

"ANDREW ELLIOTT."

The fleet of General Tryon had been piloted into its position before Fairfield by a Mr. George Hoyt, a brother of Mrs. Jonathan Bulkley, whose husband owned the tavern in the rear of the court-house. Mr. Hoyt had received a promise from General Tryon that his sister's house should be saved, which promise was kept, and through Mrs. Bulkley's intercession the three houses on the east side of the Green were spared. The Sun tavern, owned by Captain Samuel Penfield, which stood on the southwest side of the Bulkley house, was burned. No less than eighty-five dwelling-houses, fifty-five barns, fifteen stores, fifteen shops, the school-houses, county jail and jailor's house, and the two churches were consumed. Mrs. Forgue succeeded in putting out the fire of Mr. Isaac Burr's house before it had gained full headway, as the Hessians were leaving the town.

"On the evening of the 7th, while the town was in flames, a thunderstorm overspread the heavens just as night came on. The conflagration of near two hundred houses

illuminated the earth, the skirts of the clouds, & the waves of the Sound with a union of gloom & grandeur, at once inexpressibly awful & magnificent. The sky speedily was hung with the deepest darkness wherever the clouds were not tinged by the melancholy lustre of the flames. At intervals the lightning blazed with a livid & terrible splendor. The thunder rolled above. Beneath, the roaring of the fires filled up the intervals with a deep & hollow sound, which seemed to be the protracted murmur of the thunder, reverberated from one end of heaven to the other. Add to this convulsion of the elements, the dreadful effect of vindictive & wanton devastation, the trembling of the earth, the sharp sound of muskets occasionally discharged, the groans here & there of the wounded & dying, & the shouts of triumph, then place before your eyes crowds of miserable sufferers, mingled with bodies of the militia, and from the neighboring hills, taking a farewell prospect of their property & their dwellings, their happiness & their hopes, & you will form a just but imperfect picture of the burning of Fairfield. It needed no great effort of imagination to believe that the final day had arrived, & that amid the funeral darkness the morning would speedily dawn, to which no night would ever succeed; the graves yield up their inhabitants; & the trial commence, at which is to be settled the destiny of man.\*"

The morning of the 9th of July witnessed another scene in Fairfield of a very different character from that of the 7th and 8th. The army of Major Talmage from White Plains, made its appearance, to the great joy of Fairfielders, and encamped upon the green, where the smouldering embers of the court-house fired them with indignation and revenge. When they had taken leave Captain Sturges, who commanded a company of militia at Fairfield, planted a field piece in front of the Jonathan Bulkley house, " & informed Mrs. Bulkley that he would allow her a short time to clear the house, & unless she left it would blow her to atoms." Word was immediately sent to Colonel Whiting at Holland Hill by Mrs. Bulkley for protection. When Colonel Whiting arrived upon the green he found no less than about one hundred and fifty men by the cannon, whom he ordered to disperse, threatening the penalty of placing them under guard unless they obeyed him, which they reluctantly did, only at the command of their superior officer. How much Mrs. Bulkley was to be blamed for the part she took through the treachery of her brother, George Hoyt, who piloted the British to Fairfield, history does not state.

The heroic women who remained in the town to defend their homes and firesides as best they could will always hold an honored place in the history of Fairfield. Among these heroines was the wife of Lieutenant Isaac Jarvis, who commanded the Fort Black Rock. Her maiden name was Ellen Gold. She was descended from Major Nathan Gold, and on her mother's side from Ellen Burr, a descendant of the Burr family, so

\* Rev. Dr. Timothy Dwight's Travels.

that she inherited the patriotic characteristics of her distinguished ancestors. She was but twelve years of age when the spirit of independence stirred the hearts of the colonists to throw off the despotism of Great Britain. "Such was her zeal after the war broke out, that she would rise in the night to prepare & bake bread & food for the soldiers at the fort; or to dispense it among the troops passing through the town." On the night of the burning of Fairfield a British officer was wounded near where she resided, and she was asked to allow him to be brought into her house. She refused to do anything unless a promise was given that her family and all their belongings should be protected from harm. In her womanly and dignified Christian character, she showed mercy to a wounded soldier, although an enemy; and one who that night had allowed his soldiers to pillage and burn the homes of her friends and relatives. This young heroine was born August 2, 1761. It was her fate to marry three officers, Captain Isaac Jarvis, Captain Samuel Squire and Lieutenant Aaron Turney. Three times she was left a widow, and after the close of the Revolution was awarded three pensions for the services of her three husbands, which caused her to be regarded by her neighbors a wonderfully fortunate woman.\*

The testimony of other heroines who remained in the town on that night of agony and desolation has been preserved in the State Records.†

In the Congregational parish records the following entries were made by the Rev. Andrew Elliott:

"1779, July 7th. Our holy & our beautiful house, where our fathers praised thee, is burnt up with fire, & all our pleasant things are laid waste. The Lord gave & the Lord hath taken away, *Blessed* be the name of the Lord.

"All things work together for good to them that love God—to them who are called according to his purpose.

*"Alleluia!*

"The Lord God omnipotent reigneth.

*"AMEN."*

The members of the Church of England, after the great exertion they had made to erect one of the handsomest churches in the State, not only

\* She had but one child, a little daughter who died at an early age, and her heart was so overwhelmed with grief that she could not be comforted. She would sit before the picture of her child and weep and mourn until her family became solicitous for her health; and according to their ideas of idol worship, the picture was hidden away, and the poor mother never saw it again. After her death the house was torn down, and in a closet over the parlor mantelpiece a portrait of a lovely young child was found. The house of Mrs. Turney stood opposite the present Episcopal rectory.

† Rec. State Conn., 2, 553-561. Appendix No. 1.



had their church destroyed, but the sacred silver service and parish records were also lost. It is said that on the Sunday after the burning of the town, services were held in the house of Mr. Abraham Bulkley, one of the three houses on the east side of the Meeting-house Green, which had been saved from fire. The Rev. Mr. John Sayre, having suffered imprisonment and afterwards confined within the county limits, on account of his attachment to the British government, having appeared before his house with a flag of truce, hoping as a royalist to receive protection from the English, again risked the indignation of the townsmen. With a wife and eight children, he threw himself on the mercy and protection of General Tryon, and was permitted to sail on one of the enemy's ships to New York.

Mr. Sayre thus wrote from Flushing, L. I., November 8, 1779, to the Secretary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel:

"On the 7th day of July last Major-General Tryon landed at Fairfield with a body of his Majesty's troops, and took possession of the town and its environs, the greater part of the inhabitants having tackled their teams and removed what they could on his approach. This cut off all hopes from the few Loyalists of saving any part of their effects if the town should be burnt, every carriage being taken away. The General was so kind, however, as to order me a guard to protect my house and some others in its vicinity, when he had resolved to commit the rest of the town to flames; for, as I had already hinted, I had determined to remain at home. But the ungovernable flames soon extended to them all, and in a few minutes left me with a family consisting of my wife and eight children, destitute of food, house and raiment. Thus reduced, I could not think of remaining in a place where it would have been impossible to have clothed and refurnished my family. Therefore, availing myself of the protection afforded by the present opportunity (from the want of carriages) to save anything out of the house, the valuable little library given me by the Society, was burnt, together with my own; and the Plate belonging to Trinity Church at Fairfield was lost, as well as that of my family; and that handsome Church itself was entirely consumed.

"The people of that Mission met with a heavy stroke in the loss of their Church, Parsonage-house, plate, books, etc., not to mention myself, their unworthy minister. My own loss includes my little all; but what I most regret is my absence from my flock, to which my heart was and still is most tenderly attached. I trust, however, that the Great Shepherd of the Sheep will keep them in His own tuition and care. I bless the Lord for that, through all my trials, I have endeavored to keep a conscience void of offence towards God and towards man, continually striving to discharge my duties to my Master, my King and my people; and am bound to thank the Lord daily, for that divine protection, that tranquility of mind, and that peace of conscience, which, through His grace, I have all along enjoyed."

Mr. Sayre also related in his letter that while a prisoner on bounds, he ceased to use all parts of the liturgy which referred to the King, royal family and the mother country, confining himself "to reading from the

Old & New Testaments & the Psalms, & expounding either parts of the catechism, or some passages of holy Scripture.”\*

The unhappy residents of Fairfield bravely endured the loss of their homes, and temporarily improved out-buildings, raised simple structures or built upon old sites. Many of those who lost their homes and were subject at all times to be plundered by the enemy, removed to Greenfield, Redding, Norfield or Weston and Easton, or settled upon the long-lots which they had inherited from their forefathers. Their spirits had not been crushed, as the British expected; on the contrary, a keen bitterness and resentment filled their hearts, and they preferred death to surrendering to so cruel a foe. Men who stand ready to fight a foe are willing to await the result in battle encountered face to face, man against man, but when the sacredness of their homes are invaded, their wives and children abused, insulted and left homeless by wanton destruction, the tender spirit of love for them is roused to a death struggle with such a foe, in which no compromise is to be expected.

On the 20th of July the citizens of Fairfield met in town meeting, when it was

“Voted that Jonathan Lewis, Thaddeus Burr, George Burr, Samuel Wakeman, Jonathan Sturges, Esq., Messrs. Joseph Wakeman, Richard Hubbell, Jr., Daniel Duncan & David Silliman be a committee to put about subscriptions to raise a sum of money, as a reward for any person or persons that shall captivate or take prisoner General William Tryon, who commanded the British troops when they burnt this town on the seventh and eighth days of this July instant. And the said committee issue a proclamation offering such reward as shall be subscribed for that purpose.” A committee was also appointed “to wait upon Col. Jonathan Dimon & desire 25 men to keep guard at Green’s Farms, & 15 men to keep guard at Stratfield; also to request him to appoint such men as are friendly to the interests of the United States of America.”

On August 5th Governor Trumbull, with the advice of the Council of Safety, issued a Brief for calling contributions for the relief of the sufferers at New Haven, Norwalk and Fairfield.†

The patriotic ladies of Fairfield redoubled their efforts to assist the Sons of Liberty to crush the British cause. No homespun was ever woven with greater skill or cheerfulness; no spinning-wheel ever spun

\* Hist. Prot. Episcopal Church, by Bishops Perry and Hawkes, Vol. 2, pp. 204-209.

The mistake has often been made of confusing the Rev. John Sayre with his brother, Rev. James Sayre. The latter was stationed over the churches of Newport, R. I., Woodbury and Stratford, Conn., but he had never had charge of the Fairfield parish.—Hist. Discourse of Trinity Church, Fairfield, Conn., by Rev. N. E. Cornwall, 1851.

† Rec. State Conn., 2, 447.

out more yarn for the soldiers' clothing, and no flax ever raised with greater industry for their comfortable garments. Morning, noon and night saw them busy carding and spinning wool and weaving linen from flax. The spirit of liberty was woven into each turn of the wheel and each stitch of sewing and knitting-needle.

The men of Fairfield were fired to greater deeds of courage.

It is related of "Captain Caleb Brewster of Black Rock, who with 3 whale-boats about midway of the Sound against Fairfield met 3 of the enemy's boats, when an engagement commenced. The boat that opposed Brewster had a small piece & was to leeward; there was a fresh gale, & Brewster reserving his fire till within 8 or 10 rods of Hoyt poured in a broadside & then another, & boarded; there was a large Irishman in the enemy's boat, who walked several times fore & aft brandishing his broadsword, till Hasselton, a mighty fellow from the State of Massachusetts, snatched it from him & cut his throat from ear to ear; he died immediately. Capt. Brewster being wounded was several times struck on the back with the steel rammer of a gun by Hoyt. On board of Hoyt's boat all but one were killed or wounded. In Brewster's boat 4 were wounded—one (Judson Sturges) mortally. Another of our boats had a swivel which killed 2 men at one shot in another of the enemy's boats, & they immediately surrendered; the enemy's third boat escaped."\*

It has also been related of Captain Brewster, that before sailing on a privateering cruise his wife had presented him with twelve new linen shirts. His ship or boat was taken by the enemy. Brewster darted down into the cabin, lashed his new shirts to his back, returned to the deck, and jumping overboard swam to the shore.

"Capt. Brewster was also at the capture of Thomas, who commanded a privateer of the enemy mounting 14 guns, & manned with 35 men. Our vessel had about 70 men. The enemy hailed & ordered them to bring to. 'Aye, aye, presently.' 'Bring to, I say.' 'Aye, aye.' And running their bowsprit across them about midships, the sailing master, Hezekiah Gold, exclaimed: 'Strike, strike — — —, or I'll sink you.' Of the enemy 9 were killed & 5 wounded, not one of ours was hurt; they were taken off Stratford-point & carried into Black Rock; they had taken 2 row-boats bearing the Continental flag that morning & had the men in their hold."†

A County Convention, which had been agreed upon, was held at Redding on the 10th of August, 1779.

The committee from Fairfield consisted of Thaddeus Burr, Esq., Messrs. Peter Perry, Ebenezer Silliman, Samuel Odell, Nathan Seely, Thomas Nash, Joseph Wakeman, James Bennet, David Wakeman, Hezekiah Bradley, Albert Sherwood, Daniel Duncan, Benjamin Dean, Eph. Lyon, Nathan Wheeler, Jr., David Silliman, L. Nathan Williams.

The General Assembly met at Hartford, October 14th. Captain

\* Wheeler Journal, Related by Captain Brewster. Caleb Brewster was a descendant of Rodger Ludlow and Elder Brewster. A descendant of the latter, Rev. Nathaniel Brewster, married Ludlow's daughter Sarah and settled at Brookhaven, L. I., in 1665.—See Vol. I, Hist. Fairfield, 319.

† William Wheeler's Journal.—Related to him "by John Skinner, a soldier who was present."

Samuel Squire and Captain Samuel Wakeman represented Fairfield. One of the first acts passed was that owing to the burning of the jail at Fairfield all criminals from the town should be sent to the county jails of New Haven or Litchfield.\*

Intelligence from General Washington of the hourly expected arrival of the Count D'Estaing with an armament from France, and the importance of raising troops to coöperate with his forces against the enemy for the speedy reduction of New York and on the coast of the United States, the Assembly voted to immediately raise, arm and equip four thousand militia, including the two regiments already raised in May. The newly-raised men were to be formed into six regiments or battalions. They were drafted from the Second, Sixth and *Fourth* Brigades to form one brigade, to be placed under the command of Brigadier-General Andrew Ward, and to serve the United States under the command of General Washington.† For the sustenance of these troops and those under the Count D'Estaing, by request of General Washington, it was voted to raise fourteen thousand bushels of rye or meslin, 3,500 of which was to be supplied by Fairfield County and 475 of which was to be from the town of Fairfield.‡

A tax of six shillings on the pound was levied on the polls and taxable estates in the State for 1778.§

Mr. Thaddeus Burr presented a memorial from the inhabitants of Fairfield for some compensation for their great loss by the burning of the town. A committee was appointed "to make an estimate of the losses of every individual in Fairfield . . . to abate the taxes either in whole or in part."||

At a meeting of the Governor and Council of Safety at Lebanon, November 23d, a letter was read from General Washington of the defeat of the Count D'Estaing and General Lincoln's forces at Savannah, October 9th, that the Count was slightly wounded in the arm and legs and that Count Pulaski had been killed; in consequence of which the order for raising four thousand militia was countermanded.

While Fairfield and the neighboring towns were suffering from the devastation of the British, on the 15th of July General Washington resolved to recover the fortifications of Stony Point and Verplanck at

\* Rec. State Conn. I, 404.

† Rec. State Conn. I, 406.

‡ Rec. State Conn., 2, 409.

§ Rec. State Conn., 2, 413.

|| Rec. State Conn., 2, 423. Appendix No. 2.



King's Ferry on the Hudson, which had been taken by the British June 1st. This was accomplished under the command of General Wayne on the night of the 15th of July. By this victory the regular communications between the east and west were recovered. The British loss was 63 killed and 543 taken prisoners, while that of the United States forces were 15 killed and 83 wounded. Wayne destroyed this fort before the British could have time to attack him and retreated, for which gallant action Congress awarded him a gold medal.

In August General Sullivan with 5,000 men devastated and destroyed the Indian villages of the Iroquois from the Susquehanna to the Genesee, "thus inflicting a merciless attack upon them for their butcheries at Wyoming, where no mercy had been shown by the hatchet & none by the fire-brand."

Another expedition was sent by the British against Virginia under General Mathews, who with 2,500 men took possession of Portsmouth and Norfolk, where he destroyed naval ships, other vessels and private property valued at two million dollars, "carrying off a large quantity of tobacco."

Meanwhile Spain had joined the alliance against England, hoping to regain Gibraltar. Her ships united with those of France swept the British seas, inflicting great loss and damage.

During these exciting events a spirit of revenge for the burning of Fairfield inflamed the breasts of the inhabitants, and many daring deeds against the enemy were undertaken.

The trials through which our brave grandsires and their heroic wives and children passed only nerved them to greater strength of will and purpose in the maintenance of the cause of liberty. Like the Phoenix of old, which, rising out of the ashes of the dead bird, soared away to lay the old nest upon the altar of the sun, and then returned to build itself a new nest, so the brave sons of Fairfield, having laid their dear old home nests upon the altar of fire, returned to build new homes, around the hearths of which their children and children's children should relate the trials and the courage of their brave sires.

## CHAPTER XV

1780—1790

### END OF REVOLUTION. FREEDOM OF UNITED STATES

1780—Severity of winter.—General Assembly Officers.—Embargo on Provisions.—Recruits and bounty.—Hartford sends money to Fairfield sufferers.—Order to exchange prisoners.—Fourth Regiment officers.—Payment of Bills of Credit.—New issue of Bills of Credit.—Taxes.—Order to borrow money on State credit.—Effort to sustain State credit.—Tax to rebuild Fairfield Court-house.—Legal rights granted to holder of French estates in America.—Bills of Congress and Connecticut made legal tender.—Jonathan Buckley's petition for release as British prisoner granted.—Value of estates at Fairfield.—Order to exchange General Silliman and other prisoners.—Mrs. Silliman's account of the exchange.—Ammunition sent to Fairfield.—Exchange of grain, etc., with Boston for building materials.—Depreciation of currency.—Efforts to relieve the depression.—Tax at Fairfield.—Account of currency by W. Wheeler.—Causes of depreciation.—Efforts of the British to sustain a spirit of cheerfulness.—Its failure.—Patriotism of American women.—Congress calls upon Connecticut for supplies.—Large bounties offered for recruits.—Supplies of food, etc., from Fairfield.—Indians of Golden Hill.—The visit of Major Talmage to Fairfield and his victory at Fort George, L. I.—Capt. Caleb Brewster's brave deeds.—Victories of Paul Jones.—Money and articles sent from Hartford to Fairfield sufferers.—Companies sent from Fairfield to assist Greenwich.—Destruction and plunder of privateers.—Burning of mills at Mill Plain.—Troops raised for Continental army.—General Washington's visit to Wethersfield with French Counts to carry on war.—Treason of Benedict Arnold.—Capture of Major Andre.—Patriotism and industry of Fairfield women.—1781.—Washington's efforts to clothe and provide for army.—Death of Gen. Israel Putnam.—Agent sent from Connecticut to borrow money from France.—March 1st. Final ratification of articles of confederation between States.—Great rejoicing.—Fairfield officers.—Resolve to regain the South.—Battle of Cowpens, King's Mountain, Guilford Court-house, and Eutaw Springs.—Brilliant victories of General Green.—Plundering of Cornwallis and Arnold in Virginia.—General Lafayette's forces in Virginia.—Washington's plan for taking New York.—His resolve to march to Virginia.—The French fleet in Chesapeake Bay.—Clinton's attack on Tarrytown.—Benedict Arnold's attack on New London.—Washington reaches Yorktown.—Position of the French army and fleet.—Position of the American army.—Bravery of Connecticut troops.—Duke of Lauzun prevents Cornwallis' escape.—Storming of Yorktown.—Surrender of Cornwallis.—Accounts of the surrender.—Great rejoicing throughout the country.—General Clinton's tardy effort too late.—Washington's proclamation of pardon to criminals.—Washington appoints day of thanksgiving and prayer for victory.—Signing articles of peace at Versailles and Paris.—Boundaries of the United States established.—Fisheries secured.—Washington's proclamation of peace.—Disbands his army.—Fairfield officers belonging to the Order of Cincinnati.—British evacuate New York.—Bravery of Fairfield troops and energetic loyalty towards independence.—Fairfield town meeting.—Tories not allowed to return.—Rebuilding of Congregational and Episcopal churches, private residences, Academy, and jail.—Equal rights granted to all classes of Christians.—Sale of Connecticut land west of Pennsylvania granted to the support of churches and schools.—First newspaper of Fairfield.—Newfield's

(Bridgeport) rapid growth.—Fairfield a centre of legal and intellectual culture.—Gentlemen of note.

1780. The winter of 1780 was one of great severity. "The severe cold quieted in some measure our fears from an attack; & made the enemy in New York tremble in their turn for fear our men should march on the ice & attack them; & affording us a long season of sleighing. Thus graciously did a kind Providence favour & defend us from an unrelenting foe, till they were tired out."\*

The General Court assembled by a special order from Governor Trumbull January 6th. Captains Samuel Squire and Samuel Wakeman were present as deputies from Fairfield.

An embargo was laid upon all provisions and cattle driven or taken out of the State, except for the use of American vessels and for the army.

An act was passed for the gradual abolition of slavery in Connecticut in January of this year, 1780.

"Be it enacted by the Governor, Council & Representatives in the General Court assembled & by the Authorities of the same, that no Negro, Indian or Mulatto child, under seven years old, or who shall from the passing of this act be born within this State, who is or might, unless by operation of this act, be repealed, a servant for life, shall by any inhabitants of this State be held in slavery longer than until when he or she shall attain the age of twenty-eight years. But shall at that age be forever discharged from such servitude; & the owner of such negro or mulatto who shall be discharged by this act shall no longer be held, or subject for his or her maintenance or support any law, usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

"That no inhabitant of the State who is or claims to be the proprietor or owner of such Indian, negro or mulatto, shall sell, give or dispose of such servant whatsoever for any term after this act, until he or she shall arrive at the age of 28. And every sale & disposition contrary to this act shall be null & void. And every person making such sale & disposition shall incur a penalty of 500 pounds lawful money in silver coin, Past in the upper house.

"GEORGE WYLLYS, *Sec.*"

A further act was passed that no Indian, negro or mulatto now living in the State should be sold beyond the limit of the State, under a penalty of 200 pounds lawful money in solid coin.—State Archives—Revolutionary War—Slaves, Vol. XXXVII, 1789.

September 29, 1788. At the annual meeting of the Quakers of Western Connecticut a memorial was presented by them to the General Court of Connecticut against allowing vessels from the ports of Connecticut to engage in slave trade. On the 9th of September of the same year the Quakers of Connecticut made the same petition.

Conn. State Archives, Vol. XXXVII., Slaves.

\* William Wheeler's Journal.

Eighteen hundred able-bodied volunteers were, by requisition of Congress, ordered to be raised for the army. In addition to the bounty offered by Congress, the State offered to each recruit a bounty of three hundred dollars, and the sum of forty shillings wages and pay during the time they should remain in service.\*

The State treasurer was authorized to deliver the sum of sixty thousand pounds in Continental bills to an appointed agent, to be dispatched to the army to induce the soldiers of the Connecticut line to re-enlist, and to pay each recruit three hundred dollars in addition to the bounty offered by Congress. The depreciation of Continental money at this time was great, which accounts for the large bounties offered.

Four companies were ordered to be drafted out of General Silliman's brigade of fifty men each for the defence of Greenwich.†

The money contributed in Hartford County for the sufferers by the plunder and burning of Fairfield was ordered to be paid by the State treasurer into the hands of Jonathan Sturges, to be disposed of for their benefit.‡

It was also voted "that as by divers memorials to the Assembly it had been proposed and agreed to by the Commander-in-Chief and the British Commissary General of Prisoners in New York for an exchange of prisoners, by which General Silliman was to be exchanged for Judge Jones of New York and Brigadier-Major William Silliman for Mr. Willets, captured with Judge Jones, and one John Picket, confined in the Hartford Jail. "This order to be carried out as speedily as convenient."§

During the sitting of the Assembly Daniel Bennett was commissioned captain, David Silliman lieutenant, and Daniel Hill ensign of the twelfth company in the alarm list, in the Fourth Regiment.||

In order to maintain the credit of the State in the depleted condition of its bills of credit, it was voted, "that the notes issued in November, 1776, & the bills of credit loaned to the Assembly in 1777 & 1778, should be paid for together with interest, to the respective lenders, in gold or silver, or in State bills of credit, according to their full value."

Forty thousand pounds in State bills of credit were ordered to be forthwith issued, "computing every six shillings of such bills to be equal to one Spanish milled dollar or other coin in like proportion," to be

\* Rec. State Conn., 2, 452.

† Rec. State Conn., 2, 456.

‡ Rec. State Conn., 2, 465.

§ Rec. State Conn., 2, 466.

|| Rec. State Conn., 2, 473.



redeemed by the first day of March, 1784, with interest of five pounds *per centum per annum* from March, 1780." A tax of sixpence on the pound was levied on all polls and taxable estates in the colony, to be paid on the taxable list of 1782, by January 1, 1784.

Another tax of twelve shillings on the pound was levied, payable in Continental money June 1st, to be collected on the tax list of 1778; and still another tax of twelve shillings on the pound of Continental money, payable November 1st, on the list of 1779. A provision was made that any person paying the last three taxes "should have liberty to discharge the same upon paying one-thirtieth part of this sum, either in State bills of credit or in coin according to its computed value."

It was also resolved to borrow one million pounds, "on the faith & credit of the State," or Continental bills, and that any person who should deposit in the hands of the State treasurer, for the use of the State, any sum in bills of the United States, not less than one hundred and eighty pounds at its nominal value, should receive from the State one-thirtieth part of the same so deposited, in silver or gold, computing Spanish milled dollars or other coin, as aforesaid, within six years after such sum should be deposited; and receive annually an interest of six pounds *per centum per annum* either in gold or silver coin, computed as aforesaid, or in bills of credit of the State not bearing an interest of less than four pounds *per centum per annum* as aforesaid, and redeemable within seven years after the same shall be emitted by the Assembly; and such loans to the State should be exempted from taxation.

A stringent law was also passed to maintain the value of the public money against persons attempting to depreciate its value. An act was also passed instructing a committee appointed to sign the issue of State bills, "& to prepare a suitable number of *bank notes* of various denominations from nine pence to forty shillings, properly indented & delivered to the State Treasurer, to be signed by him, to be delivered to such persons as shall deposit or loan bills of the common currency." The treasurer was required to record all sums loaned to the State by each individual, and not to dispose of them except as he should be specially directed by the Assembly. Suitable deductions as usual were made for persons incapable of paying these taxes in whole or in part.\*

A tax of one shilling on the pound was voted, March 2, 1780, on all

\* Rec. State Conn., 2, 477-481.

the polls and ratable real estate of the inhabitants of the town of Fairfield, to pay the expenses of building a new court-house, and other necessary debts.

A more beautiful court-house was erected than the former one had been. The high bench of the Judge, the seats of the advocates and jurors and the witness-boxes were all ornamented with fine carved work, such as we see nowadays only upon old pieces of furniture and in the few dwellings of our oldest inhabitants.

The act of Congress passed January 14, 1780, giving the subjects of his most Christian Majesty the King of France the privilege of disposing and settling their estates under the 13th article of the treaty with France was confirmed by this Assembly, giving them liberty to dispose of their estates within the limits of the State of Connecticut; and that the estates of such of them as were deceased, "shall descend to, & become the estates of their heirs & legal representatives, according to the laws, usages & customs of the Kingdom of France, without being obliged to obtain letters of naturalization."\*

Another act was passed repealing the law for supporting the credit and currency of the bills of credit emitted by Congress and the Connecticut State bills of credit; and it was further enacted: "that all bills hereafter emitted by Congress or by the General Assembly of Connecticut shall be a legal tender as money in all payments within this State according to their current value, to which all courts within this State are to conform themselves—provided, nevertheless, that bills of credit heretofore emitted by the United States shall remain a legal tender at the nominal value, to answer for debts due from the inhabitants of this State to their creditors of other States, until such time as the State or States to which such creditors belong shall make similar laws to promote equal justice." Printed copies of these acts were ordered to be distributed in each town in the State.†

A memorial from Jonathan Bulkley of Fairfield was presented to the Assembly, stating "that he had been made a prisoner in July by the British troops, & been lately held a prisoner upon parole of honor, praying for relief, &c." The Assembly "resolved that said Jonathan Bulkley be, & he is hereby permitted to return home, there to remain under the care & direction of the civil authorities & selectmen of the town of Fairfield: Provided that the liberty hereby granted shall not be construed

\* Rec. State Conn., 2, 481.

† Rec. State Conn., 2, 482.

to affect the obligations he is under by virtue of his parole to the enemy given while in their power.”\*

The polls and taxable estates of Fairfield, taken in October of 1779, were valued at £46,324 18s. 3d.

At a meeting of the Governor and Council of Safety, holden at Hartford, February 12th, it was agreed that the prisoners of war proposed to be exchanged for General Silliman and for his son, Major William Silliman, “who is come out on parole,” and others, should be effected through Captain Samuel Torrence and Ebenezer Talman of Woodbury, who were to bring out the State prisoners from New York in exchange for British prisoners; General Washington was notified of this resolution, and that Judge Jones would be sent forward as soon as he had so far recovered from his lameness as to be able to bear the journey.†

The following account is given in Mrs. Silliman’s diary to her son Benjamin of General Silliman’s return to Fairfield:

“The British stood out a long time, but at last consented if in addition to Judge Jones they might have one Washburn, a noted bad character, a Tory, that we had taken during the war, if he might be put with Jones, it might make *weight*. This was finally agreed on, & Judge Jones was sent for from Middletown, & a vessel hired by us to take him in, & the same to bring your father if they would let him come. We agreed if they obtained him, two flags should be hoisted when they returned, that we might certainly know whether he was coming. The vessel sailed with Judge Jones about eight o’clock in the morning from our harbour. They had a fine wind, & I saw them go with great rapidity; & we hoped that in two or three days we should receive him, who had been so long separated from us. But about one o’clock we saw the same vessel returning; & to our surprise saw two flags; this we could not understand, as we knew they had not had time to go to New York. The fact was, the same day we were sending the Judge off, they at New York were sending off your father, & the vessels met. Their flag of truce hailed ours, & asked if they had Judge Jones on board? ‘Yes. Well, we have Gen. Silliman too,’ was the answer; & they soon boarded each other. . . . When ours came in call of our fort & battery at Black Rock, one called to know if they had Gen. Silliman on board, he then leaped on deck, & waved his hat, at which there was so loud a shout we heard them plainly at the house; then all the cannon was fired off; & the same took place when he landed at the wharf. It was very pleasing to us at the house, as well as to your father, to see such testimonials of joy at his return; many of the people waited on him to his own house. . . . After this a subaltern officer was at our house every night for a long time, & we had frequent alarms, & I was ever afterwards afraid of having the past disagreeable scene acted over again. The guard was ordered by the Governor. After this I don’t remember that he ever went out on any campaign, but had the care as before, of all the coast in Fairfield County.”

By order of the Governor and Council six barrels of musket-powder

\* Rec. State Conn., 2, 492.

† Rec. State Conn., 2, 503.



belonging to the State were ordered to be delivered to the selectmen of Fairfield. On March 26th the Governor and Council gave permission to Captain Stephen Thorp in behalf of the townsmen of Fairfield and Norwalk, to carry grain, flour and provisions to the eastward in exchange for boards, glass, etc., to enable them to build houses.\*

The currency of the United States continued to depreciate to such an extent that in order to maintain the credit of the States Congress issued an act or resolution, March 18th, in which they set forth the condition of the country:

"These United States having been driven into this just & necessary war, at a time when no regular civil governments were established of sufficient energy to enforce the collection of taxes, or to provide funds for the redemption of such bills of credit as their necessities obliged them to issue, & before the powers of Europe were sufficiently convinced of the justice of their cause or of the probable events of the controversy to afford them aid or credit. In consequence of which, their bills increased in quantity beyond the sum necessary for the purpose of a circulating medium; & wanting at the same time specific funds to rest on for their redemption, they have seen them daily sink in value, notwithstanding every effort that has been made to support the same; insomuch as they are now passed by common consent in most parts of the United States, at least thirty-nine-fortieths below their nominal value, & still remain in a state of depletion, whereby the community suffers great injustice, the public finances are deranged, & the necessary disposition of the defences of the country are much impeded & perplexed. And, as effectually to remedy the evils for which purpose the United States are now become competent, their independence well assured, their civil government established & vigorous, & the spirit of their citizens ardent for exertion, it is necessary speedily to reduce the quantity of paper medium in circulation, & to establish & appropriate funds that shall insure the punctual redemption of the bills. Therefore resolved: that the several States continue to bring into the Continental treasury by taxes or otherwise, their full quota of fifteen million dollars annually, as assigned them by the resolution of the seventh of October, 1779, a clause in the resolve of the 23d of February last for relinquishing two-thirds of said quotas to the contrary notwithstanding; & that the States be called on to make provision for continuing to bring into the said treasury their like quotas monthly to the month of April, 1781, inclusive. That silver & gold shall be received at the rate of one Spanish milled dollar in lieu of forty dollars of the bills now in circulation. That the said bills as paid in, except for January & February, which may be necessary for the discharge of past contracts be not reissued, but destroyed; & funds be established to be issued, not to exceed one twentieth part of the nominal sum of the bills brought in to be destroyed. That the new bills to be redeemable in specie within six years from the date of issue, & bear an annual interest of five *per centum per annum*, to be paid in specie at the redemption of the bills or at the election of the holder annually at the respective continental loan offices, in sterling bills of exchange, drawn by the United States on their commissioners in Europe at four shillings six pence sterling per dollar, etc. These new bills to be issued on the funds of individual States, were ordered to be signed by committees appointed for that purpose, on the pledged faith of each State; & in case any State, by the events of war should be rendered in-

\* Rec. State Conn., 2, 510.



capable to redeem them, the faith of the United States be also pledged for the payment of the said bills; which undertaking of the United States, & that of drawing bills of exchange for payment of interest as aforesaid, shall be endorsed on the bills to be emitted & signed by a Commissioner to be appointed by Congress for that purpose. As soon as the new bills were signed, each State was to retain six-tenths of its bills issued & the remainder made subject to the orders of the United States, & credited to the States on whose funds they were issued, the account of which to be adjusted according to the resolution of the 6th of October, 1779. The several States were called upon to provide funds for their quotas of the new bills, 'to be so productive as to sink or redeem one-sixth part of them annually after the first of January, 1781.'

The General Assembly met at Hartford, April 13th. In their session in January they had not anticipated that the bills of the United States currency had depreciated more than twenty-nine-thirtieths below the nominal value of the State of Connecticut; yet as the mean discount of the currency within the United States had been declared on the 18th of March, less than thirty-nine-fortieths below the nominal value of said bills, it was voted: "That this Assembly do therefore approve of Congress having ascertained the discount of said bills upon general principles mentioned in their said act," and being fully convinced of the expediency of having the said bills called in and destroyed, and also of the necessity of having the public credit established upon just and permanent principles, which this assembly are confident will be fully effected in case the measures recommended by Congress to the several States shall be adopted; it was resolved that although Congress had recommended to Connecticut "an over-proportion of the common debt belonging to the State," but being fully persuaded it would be properly adjusted in the future, it was declared, "that as fast as the circumstances of the State would permit to call in & deliver to be destroyed so many of the bills of the common currency of the United States as Congress has requested this State to call in & cancel; & that this Assembly will establish & appropriate certain & sufficient funds to redeem the bills of public credit, under the act of Congress, of March 18th." To carry out which, "a tax was granted of seven pence on the pound on the polls & taxable estates within the State on the list of 1780, to be paid into the treasury December 31, 1781. Five other taxes were granted of seven pence on the pound on each respective list which should be brought in from the year 1781 to 1785, inclusive, to be paid in yearly on the 31st of December, from 1782 to 1786 inclusive." These taxes were to be paid in "from the new issue of bills of credit on the faith of the State and under the authority of the United States, according to the act of Congress March 18, 1780, or in Spanish milled dollars, computing each dollar at six shillings lawful money, or in lawful current coins of gold and silver in that proportion; that as fast as any of the bills issued upon the faith of the State were collected by any of these taxes, they should be destroyed by an appointed committee; and any collected bills of the United States be exchanged for State bills. "All specie or as much of it as might be necessary which shall be collected from the taxes was to be appropriated to redeem the bills issued upon the credit of the State as aforesaid; " which shall not otherwise be collected into the hands of the Treasurer & destroyed; & that the Treasurer shall pay the specie so collected upon application of the possessor of such bills as shall have issued upon the credit of the State after the 31st of December, 1786." "Six-tenths of the new bills of credit were to be retained for the use of the State, & four-tenths left on deposit in the hands of the Loan Office of the United States in this State." A further tax was granted of twelve shillings on the pound in bills of the common currency of the United States, on the list of 1779, payable to the State treasury September, 1780: "Provided that any person charged in any taxes for bills of common currency of the United States shall have liberty to dis-

charge the same by paying one-fortieth part thereof in gold or silver coin as aforesaid, or in bills of public credit which have or shall issue upon the faith of this or any of the United States, according to the act of Congress passed on the 18. of March last, or in bills issued by the General Assembly of this State on the 6th of January." It was further provided: "that the last issue of bills of credit in January might be exchanged for the new issue ordered by Congress March 18th." The Treasurer was instructed that after receiving by exchange taxes or any other payment in the bills of January 6th he should not reissue them, but retain them in his hands to be destroyed. The act to borrow one million dollars on the credit of the State in January was repealed.\*

The civil authorities of each town were authorized to abate in full or in part the taxes of those least able to pay them "or one twentieth part of their town's proportion."

At a town meeting held at Fairfield, June 10th, Thaddeus Burr being moderator, it was voted: "that there be a rate of one penny lawful money on the pound raised on all the polls and ratable estates of the inhabitants of this town to be paid in bills of credit lately emitted by this State, or in silver or gold, or in Continental bills at the rate of forty to one, & that the selectmen pay to each soldier that shall voluntarily enlist into the Continental service during the war, or for three years, the sum of ten pounds out of said rate, & the remainder of sd. rate to defray the expenses of the town." †

In the journal of a gentleman living at Black Rock at the time of the Revolution, he states: "Continental money from September 1, 1777, till March, 1780, fell from full value to 40 for 1, or, he that in 1777 received 1,000 dollars & kept it till 1780, or 2½ years, it would be worth only twenty-five dollars, by which many were ruined." ‡

\* State Rec. Conn., I, 516-521.

† Fairfield Town Records.

‡ "A young lady in Fairfield had five sheep left her by her father, and the money for which they were sold depreciating, it purchased only a roll for her head dress made of wool or tow to comb her hair over." This gentleman gives the following as "*Fragments of a Song*" made at that time:

"The roll it is worn by the great and the small,  
By girls and ladies and squaws and all:  
The fleece is all lost and the sheep are all dead;  
And the wool it is worn on the Female head;  
And what our poor army will do for clothes,  
There is not a mortal among us that knows.  
Let them take down their rolls and pull out the tow;  
It will clothe a whole army we very well know;  
And when you have made so brave a beginning,  
Then take to your cards, and so to your spinning."

He goes on to relate "that when Connecticut State money fell about half, my father had a good many dollars of this, and for fear of being robbed stuck it up in the garret between the rafters

The causes which led to this great depreciation in the Continental money were many. From its first issue, in 1775, extreme opposition was raised against it. Commerce and trade had been almost entirely paralyzed. The country was without allies, and had been plunged into a war with one of the most powerful nations, whose ships swept the sea, capturing many prizes. Every effort was made which art and malice could put forth by the enemy and the Tory element throughout the colonies to prevent its circulation. For nearly a year, however, it passed upon a par with gold and silver, until the amount of its issue became so great as to depreciate its value, but not its credit or its circulation. "The lower it depreciated until it fell to four & to one, the more extensive & freely it circulated, insomuch that the most acknowledged Tories sold gold for it, at the above exchange, & put it into the funds or locked it up in their chests." Another cause for this depreciation was the resolution of Congress to call in the emissions of bills of credit in 1777 and 1778 out of circulation. "This was the first shock the money received. Hundreds suffered by it, and although its quantity was diminished by it, yet it fell in a few weeks to four & in a few months from twenty to one." The people began to demand gold or silver, or hard money, as it was called, and tradesmen refused to open their shops or to sell goods unless paid in coin.

In order to bring about a spirit of cheerfulness during this distressing war and financial depression, efforts were made by the British officers encouraging social gatherings where they were stationed.

"Their efforts did not avail, however, & they proved but dull & gloomy meetings: the men played cards, but the women but seldom were persuaded to dance. Even in their dresses the females seemed to bid us defiance; the gay toys which are imported here they despise; they wear their own home-spun manufactures; & take care to have on their breast knots & even on their shoes something which resembles the flag of the thirteen stripes. An officer told Lord Cornwallis not long ago that he believed if he had destroyed all the men in North America, we should have enough to do to conquer the women, & added: 'I am heartily tired of this country, & wish myself at home.' The gravity of the men & women of our State gave them the soubriquet of 'Indigo Connecticut.'"\*

A requisition from Congress upon the States for supplies for the army was also granted during the sitting of the April Assembly. The and the roof where the mice found it, and made it into a nest. There were pieces of 40 and 20 shillings, which made a warm couch for the mouse gentlemen. His silver tankard and spoons he hid for some years in a stone wall."—William Wheeler's Journal.

\* Pennsylvania Gazette. Moore's Diary Revolution.

proportion called for from Connecticut was 78,400 weight of beef, 1,011 bushels of salt, 68,558 gallons of rum, 500 tons of hay.\* John Squire was appointed to purchase the proportion of supplies to be furnished within the limits of Fairfield and Stratford.†

In order to more effectually carry out the design of the January call for volunteers, a bounty was offered to each person who should enlist in the State battalion of infantry during the war since the January session, and in lieu of the premium then granted "should receive four pounds ten shillings lawful money in State bills, or six hundred dollars in Continental currency, over & above the bounties given by Congress from June to December 1, 1781, with an entire suit of clothing, & be exempt from taxes as many years as they should be enlisted for and continue in the service."‡

James Beard, Thaddeus Burr and Elijah Abel were appointed a committee to look into a report "of abuses & injuries done to Thomas & Eunice & other Indians of Golden Hill in Stratford, &c."§

On the evening of November 23, 1780, Major Talmage returned to Fairfield from a splendid and successful enterprise against Fort George on Long Island, having destroyed the fort and such forage and supplies as could not be carried away by his men or taken off by prisoners. The following is the official account to General Washington:

"On the 16th of November, in obedience to your Excellency's orders, a detachment of Colonel Sheldon's dismounted dragoons, under the command of Captain Edgar, were ordered to march the next day to Fairfield, to which place I directed a number of boats to repair. The troops arrived in the vicinity of Fairfield on the evening of the 18th, at which place, by reason of a very severe storm, we were detained till the 21st inst., on the evening of which, at four o'clock, I embarked the troops in eight boats, the whole number including the crews, amounted to about eighty men. With a favorable wind we landed safely on Long Island, at a place called the Old Man's, about eight o'clock in the evening. After leaving about twenty men with the boats in charge of Captain Sutton, we began our march to put your Excellency's orders into execution, but a very severe storm coming on, however it might have favored an attack on the fort, obliged me to postpone it, as I was well aware that attention must be paid as well to a favorable time for crossing the Sound (which at this place more than twenty fathoms wide) as to attack the fort. I accordingly concealed the troops till the evening of the 22d, when, at seven o'clock, we began our march across Long Island, & at three o'clock the next morning were within two miles of Fort St. George at South Haven. By the most accurate information I found that the forts & other works had been entirely completed but a few days before, & that the garrison consisted of fifty men. It may be necessary here to observe that the works of Fort St. George consisted of two large, strong houses, & a fort about ninety feet

\* Rec. State Conn., 2, 521.

† Rec. State Conn., 2, 526.

‡ Rec. State Conn., 2, 530.

§ Rec. State Conn., 2, 531.



square, connected together by a very strong stockade or line of sharpened pickets twelve feet long, the whole forming a triangle, the fort & houses standing in the angles. The fort consisted of a high wall & a deep ditch, encircled with a strong abatis, leaving but one gate, a sally-port which led directly into the grand parade within the pickets. This fort had embrasures for six guns, though but two were mounted; the houses were strongly barricaded. From this description I found it necessary, small as my detachment was, to make three different attacks at the same time. I accordingly detached Lieutenant Jackson with sixteen men with orders to advance as near the fort as he could undiscovered, & there to halt till the alarm was given by the advance of the detachment under the immediate command. The van of the detachment, which carried axes to beat down the obstructions, were led by Lieutenant Brewster\* directly against the new house, while the remainder, with Captain Edgar & myself at their head, followed close after. Another small division was directed to file off & surround the other house; Mr. Simons bringing up the rear, with directions to halt where the breach might be made to prevent the garrison from escaping. Thus prepared, the troops were put in motion precisely at four o'clock, & contrary to my expectations the pioneers advanced within twenty yards of the works before they were discovered. The sentinel firing, the different detachments immediately rushed on, & passing all obstructions, met at the same instant in the centre of the fort, where the watchword was given from all quarters at the same time. The guard in the fort was secured; but the two houses contained the main body of the garrison, which began to fire from the windows. I immediately ordered the troops to enter the houses, the door of which, though strongly bolted & barred, was soon burst open, & in less than ten minutes the whole garrison were our prisoners. Being informed that a vessel lay within view of the fort, loaded with stores, rum, wine, sugar, glass, etc., I detached a party who boarded & took her. Thus master of the whole, my first object was to demolish as much as possible their works, etc. We accordingly set fire to the small garrison buildings, stockade & abatis, consuming at the same time the public stores that could be collected, including a considerable quantity of ammunition & arms, which the troops, so much fatigued & having so long a march to make back could not carry. We remained at the fort from four to eight o'clock in the morning, when, having destroyed as much of it as possible we began our march back. The vessel being aground we burnt.

"I feel particularly happy that I can inform your Excellency that we had not a man killed in the enterprise & but one wounded; him we brought off. The enemy's loss was seven (7) killed & wounded, most of the latter mortally. The surprise was so complete that before they could rally they were our prisoners.

"On our return I mounted ten men on the horses taken at the fort, & while Captain Edgar marched the detachment & prisoners across the island, I filed off with Lieutenant Brewster, to Coram, & set fire to the whole magazine of the King's forage at that place, supposed to contain more than three hundred tons, & joined the detachment again in less than two (2) hours. By this time the militia began to muster, but prudently avoided coming near us. Some guns were fired but no damage received. By four o'clock in the afternoon of the same day we reached our boats, & having embarked the troops & prisoners, arrived safe at this place at eleven o'clock on the evening of the 23d. Thus in about twenty-one (21) hours we performed a march of near forty miles, took Fort St. George, &c., &c., & in less than six hours more were landed at this place.

"I should be remiss in my duty should I omit to observe that the officers & soldiers under my command behaved with the greatest fortitude & spirit, both upon their long & fatiguing march & in the moment of action. Mr. Muirson, a volunteer upon the occasion,

\* Lieut. Caleb Brewster of Black Rock.

deserves commendation. He advanced with a party of Lieutenant Jackson's detachment over the abatis & wall into the fort. In fine, every order that was given was executed with alacrity & precision."

The prisoners taken at Fort St. George were one half-pay lieutenant-colonel, one half-pay captain, one lieutenant, one surgeon, fifty rank and file, one garrison.

The British account gives the following in the "Pennsylvania Packet, December 12th: "A party of rebels, about eighty in number, headed, it is said, by a rebel, Major Talmage, assisted by a certain Heathcoat, Muirson, Benjah Strong, Thomas Jackson & Caleb Brewster, officers belonging to said party, all formerly of Long Island, came across in eight whale-boats, &c., just after daylight arrived at Smith's Point, St. George's Manor, south side Long Island, where they surprised a respectable body of refugees belonging to Rhode Island & the vicinity, who were establishing a post in order to get a subsistence for themselves & families, &c."\*

This design and its successful issue must have caused not only great surprise, but some alleviation to the inhabitants of Fairfield for their own sad fate, while the ruins of their homes were yet to be seen. Every triumph over the enemy gave renewed hope and courage to them in their sufferings as they experienced the prospect of a final triumph.

The remarkable victories of John Paul Jones off the coast of England and Scotland also served to stimulate the American naval and military men of the country.

On the 22d of April Brigadier-Generals Wolcott, Ward and Silliman were ordered to send forward to the distressed state of the town of Greenwich from the invasion of the British, one company, with their officers, from each of their brigades for the defence of that post.†

On the 20th of December, 1779, the Governor and Council instructed George Wyllys, the treasurer of Hartford County, to pay over to Joseph Platt Cook, Esq., "all the money & articles which were contributed in that county for the sufferers of New Haven, Fairfield & Norwalk."‡

About this time a large number of privateers of from four to twelve guns, of the enemy and of our own, cruised the Sound, and took almost every unarmed vessel that entered it, "thus furnishing opportunity of plunder on both sides." Although coast guards were stationed from Stratfield to Compo, constant raids were made both by the British and Tories. Cattle and sheep were seized, killed and carried away; murders were committed, so that the inhabitants all along the Sound were kept in a constant state of terror. Retaliation followed by the Sons of Liberty, and many armed whale-boats passed from New Field, Black Rock, Mill

\* Moore's Diary of American Revolution, 870-873.

† Rec. State Conn., 2d, 447.

‡ Rec. State Conn., 541.

River, Green's Farms and Compo into the Sound and over to the shores of Long Island for booty and prisoners. New Field was a particularly noted place for the escape of Tories to cross from neighboring towns to Long Island, although its loyal inhabitants had obtained cannon and ammunition to erect a fort to protect its coast.\*

"March 14th. Captain Hubbell of the Associated Loyalists, with his little band of *true* Englishmen, on the 28th of February, with four manned whale-boats, crossed the Sound to Compo, lying between Green's Farms, in the west parish of Fairfield, & landed his party. Being fired upon by the occupants of two guard houses, they attacked & drove their provincial occupants away. The militia of the neighborhood gathered quickly, & Hubbell with his men embarked & sailed towards Mill River on the "General Wolfe"; & on the morning of the 4th of March between 30 & 40 men manned the whale-boats & crossed to Kenzie's Point, where, leaving the boats with a safe guard, Captain Hubbell moved with the rest two miles up Mill River & destroyed two mills & about two hundred barrels of flour, collected there, as they were told, for the French at Rhode Island. After collecting a few sheep they returned to their boats." The mills belonged to the Perrys.†

At the meeting of the October Assembly steps were taken to raise and equip four thousand two hundred and forty-eight men and officers to serve in the Continental army while the war lasted. Each town in the State was ordered to furnish its proportion of troops. By an order of Congress a convention of the northern States and New Jersey was held at Hartford in November to consult as to the best method to fill up and sustain the northern quotas; at which time a committee was appointed "to agree upon some way for supplying the French army and navy in this country with necessary provisions." Count Rochambeau and the cavalry corps of the Duke of Lauzun were given quarters for the winter in Windham and adjacent towns. A committee was also appointed to provide provisions, accommodations and barracks for them at the expense of the State.

Although the British had met with success in their southern campaign, they had greatly weakened their army at the north. For this reason General Washington, deeming it a fitting opportunity to make an effort to recover New York, set out September 19th for Hartford, to confer with Governor Trumbull and his Council of War, and with Count Rochambeau to form some plan of carrying out this design. On the 21st Washington held a conference at Wethersfield with Governor Trumbull, Count Rochambeau and other prominent men, when, after due deliberation, it was agreed to raise troops for another campaign.

\* Wheeler's Journal.

† Moore's Diary Revolution.

On the 22d Count Rochambeau set out with his officers for Newport. On the 26th Washington returned by way of Fishkill, and reached West Point the following Monday. He was received with a military salute of thirteen guns and a hearty welcome.

On his way to West Point Washington learned of the treason of Benedict Arnold and the capture of Major Andre. Every effort was made to save this young English officer by Washington and many of his friends, in offering to "exchange him for Arnold"; but the British, who had paid Arnold a large sum of money to betray Washington and his army at West Point and on the Hudson, did not feel that they could honorably make the exchange, and in consequence Andre was hanged as a spy on the 2d of October.

It was agreed by Congress to reorganize the army, and "to furnish fifty regiments of foot, four of artillery, two corps of rangers, one regiment of artificers & four legionary corps to consist of two-third horse & one-third foot," thus raising an army of thirty-six thousand men. Six regiments were ordered by Congress to be raised in Connecticut for this army.

Every effort was put forth to raise and equip the Connecticut regiments. The women of Fairfield and vicinity held frequent societies, and clothing of all kinds was made for those who enlisted. Thousands of dollars worth of clothing was in this way contributed throughout the country towards the support of the army.

The army sustained a great loss at this time by the sudden illness of General Putnam, who was seized with an attack of paralysis in December while on his way to Morristown, which made him an invalid during the remainder of his life.

1781. In January General Washington found it a severe strain to hold in check the murmurings of our poorly clothed and fed army. Open revolt took place among some of the Pennsylvania and New Jersey regiments. Their term of enlistment having expired, they demanded that they should be paid and released from further service. Their desperate condition for want of clothing and food led them to break into open mutiny. Congress acted without hesitation in exerting every effort to clothe and pay the men and to make such favorable terms as to give them satisfaction. General Putnam's men also threatened to disperse, but he aroused their patriotism and led them to hope for better things. And through the prudence of Washington and his chief officers quiet



and confidence were restored. At this critical time, although Governor Trumbull had nobly responded in raising the sum allotted to Connecticut towards the nine hundred thousand dollars to be raised, he found himself unable to furnish all that was required, and after holding a conference with Washington it was agreed to send Colonel John Laurens to France with the hope of negotiating a loan.

On the 20th of May Jonathan Lewis and over twenty-five citizens of Fairfield petitioned the General Assembly that the salt meadows lying between Hoit's Island, the Sea-Pine Creek and Sasco Hill be drained, the bridge at Pine Creek repaired, and the ditches and drains cleaned and sewered, on account of the encroachment of the water tearing away the beach.

March 1, 1781. Made memorable in the annals of America by the final ratification in Congress of the articles of confederation and perpetual union between the States. "This great event was announced to the public at 12 o'clock, under the discharge of the artillery on the land & the cannon of the shipping on the Delaware. The bells were rung & every manifestation of joy shown on this occasion. The 'Ariel'—frigate—commanded by gallant Paul Jones, fired a feu-de-joie, & was beautifully decorated with a variety of streamers in the day, and ornamented with a brilliant appearance of light in the night."

"At two o'clock in the afternoon his Excellency, the president of the Congress, received the congratulations of the legislative & executive bodies of Pennsylvania, the civil & military officers, & many of the principal citizens, who partook of the collation provided on this happy occasion. The evening was ushered in by an elegant exhibition of fireworks."\*

Meanwhile active preparations were transpiring to carry out Washington's plan to retake New York.

Colonel Beebe of Litchfield was given command of the seaboard of Connecticut. General Green had been appointed by Congress to take command of the Southern army. He reorganized his division with a view of driving the British from the south. He formed a junction with General Morgan and his force of 1,000 men, and on the 17th of January defeated the British under Tarleton at Cowpens.

The Southerners, enraged at the cruelties practiced by the British during the siege of Savannah, Charleston and Camden, prepared to enter

\* Moore's Diary Revolution.

into the war with more patriotic enthusiasm than before. Their impetuous attack and defeat of the British at King's Mountain on October 7, 1780, where the British believed their fortifications to be impregnable, was one of the most brilliant battles of the Revolution. This defeat so exasperated General Cornwallis that he set out in rapid pursuit of Generals Green and Morgan; but favored by wind and rain, the American forces, marching at the rate of thirty miles a day, succeeded in reaching Guilford Court-house on the 14th in safety. The next morning, the 15th, the furious battle of Guilford Court-house took place, and again the British were victorious, although they lost heavily. Cornwallis now set out for the north, and reached Wilmington in April.

As soon as General Green had rested his weary, half fed and half clothed army he set out for Camden, where, although the Americans had been defeated, he did not give up his resolution to drive the British from the south. He led his forces to Charleston, where, with his brave officers, after several brilliant achievements during his march, he routed the British at Eutaw Springs. Other successes followed, and the Americans were once more practically in possession of the Southern States.

Leaving the defence of South Carolina with Lord Rawdon's division of his army, Cornwallis set out for Virginia, where, with Arnold the traitor and Tarleton, after devastating and plundering the country during the summer months, he collected his forces, and by orders from Governor Clinton retired to Yorktown, which place he began to fortify, so as, if possible, to make it impregnable.

General Lafayette had been sent to check these devastations in Virginia, but with little success, as his forces were not of sufficient strength for the purpose. He, however, succeeded in keeping his army of about 1,200 men together by supplying them with clothing and other necessities at his own expense.

While these events were transpiring in Virginia, Washington had been preparing his army at the north to carry out the arrangements made at Wethersfield for the reduction of New York by a concerted action of the allied land and naval forces. Early in July Count Rochambeau set out with his forces from Newport and reached New Castle, Westchester County, July 4th. The Duke of Lauzun also marched from his winter quarters in Connecticut with his French legion to join the main army. By July 6th the allied forces stretched from Phillipsburg, near Dobbs

Ferry, to the Bronx River. The Connecticut regiments at Phillipsburg were under the command of General Parsons. Many of the Connecticut troops were with Lafayette and the Counts Rochambeau and Lauzun, of which Fairfield had contributed her proportion.

Governor Clinton had meanwhile received intercepted letters, which revealed Washington's plan for the capture of New York. He immediately began to strengthen his garrison to make every possible defence by land and by water. He called upon Cornwallis to send to his aid half of the troops under his command. He concentrated the British army at King's Bridge; but aware of the strength of the allied forces, he did not think it prudent to make an attack until he should be reinforced by Cornwallis. He resolved, however, to harass the Americans in every way that might lead Washington to send relief to his northern posts.

He sent a detachment of troops towards Tarrytown to capture the stores, ammunition and cannon held in that place. General Robert Howe was sent with a body of troops to intercept this movement, and succeeded not only in saving the stores and ordnance, but in putting to flight the enemy's shipping. In Washington's dispatch of the 14th of July he "praises the gallant behaviour & spirited action of Colonel Sheldon and Captain Hurlburt of the Second Regiment of dragoons, and Lieutenant Shaylor of the Fourth Regiment of Connecticut, as deserving the utmost distinguished applause."

While Governor Clinton's orders were thus being carried out, Washington, while keeping up an appearance of design upon New York, had secretly given orders for the allied land and naval forces to concentrate upon Chesapeake Bay, so as to make a combined attack by land and water upon Yorktown, now strongly fortified by Cornwallis.

Leaving a sufficient force under General Heath for the protection of the High Lands, Washington left his headquarters at Peekskill, broke up his camp at Phillipsburg, and on the 19th of August crossed King's Ferry and commenced his march to Virginia. He was quickly followed by the Counts Rochambeau and Lauzun with their forces from White Plains.

As soon as Governor Clinton discovered this design of Washington's he decided to oppose it by sending Benedict Arnold, the traitor, with a fleet to attack Fort Griswold at New London, then commanded by Colonel Ledyard. A furious battle was fought and the British were victorious. A scene of horror took place, such as caused one of the

British officers to demand a halt of hostilities. Colonel Ledyard was murdered while presenting his sword of surrender to the English officer, Major Bromfield, who plunged it into his heart.

Washington bravely continued his march towards Yorktown with all possible speed, to join General Lafayette's division, and the forces of the French fleet under the Counts De Grasse and Du Barras, which had entered Chesapeake Bay August 31st. The American troops reached Williamsburg September 25th, and warmly welcomed their French allies under Lafayette, securing to them every comfort and privilege, even sleeping on the ground themselves by giving them the use of their tents.

By September 30th Cornwallis saw the allied armies taking position around Yorktown, the French being on the right and the Americans on the left.

The following account, given at the time, furnishes an interesting history of the final triumph of the Americans in this memorable siege:

"September 22, 1781. The American army & their allies near Williamsburg in Virginia. They expect, September 28th, to march to a position near York, to commence a siege. They make a brilliant appearance as to numbers & are 15,000 strong, not including the Virginia militia.

"The whole army marched on Friday, September 28th, from Williamsburg to within one mile of the enemy's works at York, & formed the first line of circumvolution without loss. On the 29th a few skirmishes took place, with but little loss on either side. In the night the British evacuated Pigeon Quarters & their other redoubts overlooking the town, which the Americans took possession of under a heavy cannonade from Yorktown on Sunday morning at sunrise. The enemy next fled from a stockade, when the French grenadiers had advanced within fifteen yards of it, retreating under cover of their shipping, losing ten men taken prisoners. Cornwallis was strongly fortified, having possession of Gloucester, garrisoned by about 1,000 men. The English were hemmed in with 15,000 men, & the Duke de Lauzun with his legion & 2,000 marines from the fleet to prevent any escape that way. One ship of 44 guns, two frigates & a twenty-gun packet lie at Burwell's Landing in James River; one of fifty, one of forty, two frigates & a store-ship in the mouth of that river; 5 ships of the line off Cape Henry; thirty-two ships of the line & several frigates are drawn up across the mouth of York River, 3 ships of considerable force in the river below the town, which were to proceed onward with the first fair wind.

"The easy capture of the outposts greatly accelerated the final operations of our army. Lieutenant-Colonel John Conolly was taken near Yorktown by two militiamen, & was paroled to Hanover in Virginia. Washington now pursued vigorous operations against the enemy. On the 14th of October with the American & allied forces the French & American batteries were played successfully for the following three days until the English redoubts were taken; when Cornwallis called for a cessation of hostilities.

The 18th was made a day of respite preparing for the surrender and the assembling of the troops in dress-uniforms, in which, to the credit of the patriotic and industrious Daughters of Liberty, they presented a praiseworthy appearance the next day.\*

\* Record of Connecticut Men in the War of the Revolution.



"October 19th. General Cornwallis, with about 5,000 British troops, surrender as prisoners of war to General George Washington, commander-in-chief of all the allied forces of France & America! *Laus Deo!*

"The Viscount de Noailles, Lieutenant-Colonel Laurens, aide-de-camps to General Washington, & Colonel Dundas & Major Ross, aide-de-camps to Lord Cornwallis, were appointed to adjust the etiquette of the capitulation.

"About one o'clock the articles of capitulation were signed & interchanged; & about 2 o'clock P. M. the British garrison of York, led by General O'Hara (Lord Cornwallis being indisposed), were conducted by General Lincoln, through the combined army, drawn up in two lines in a field, where, having grounded their arms & stripped off their accoutrements, they were reconducted through the lines & committed to the care of a guard.

"At the same time & in the same manner, the garrison of Gloucester was surrendered to the command of the Duke de Lauzun.

"Previous to this a detachment of French & American troops took possession of the British horn-works & planted on the epaulment the standard of the two nations. The brilliant appearance of the allied armies, the joy which diffused itself from rank to rank strongly contrasted with the mortification, the despondence & unsoldierly behavior of the British troops, forming one of the most pleasing prospects a patriot can behold or even his fancy depict."\*

The New Jersey "Gazette" of November 4, 1781, gives the following account of the surrender: "The allied army was drawn up in two straight lines, facing each other, leaving a space for the British column to pass through. The commander-in-chief with his suite on the right of the American line; the Count Rochambeau opposite on the left of the French. Lord Cornwallis pleading indisposition, the British were led by General O'Hara, conducted by General Lincoln. Their colors *cased* & they not allowed to beat a French or American march, as Lincoln had been commanded not to do at the surrender of Charleston.

"The British officers behaved like boys who had been whipped at school; some bit their lips, some pouted, others cried, their round, broad-brimmed hats were well adapted to the occasion, hiding those faces they were ashamed to show. The foreign regiments made a much more military appearance, & the conduct of the officers far more becoming men of fortitude."†

The New York "Packet" of November 15th gives General Cornwallis' report of the siege of Yorktown. In this report he states that he never regarded Yorktown a favorable place, and nothing but the hope of relief promised him by Sir Henry Clinton would have induced him to attempt its defence; besides, the superiority of General Washington's

\* Moore's Hist. Revolution—from Pennsylvania Packet.

† Moore's Hist. Revolution, 1034-1038.

forces would never have led him to attack the American troops in the open field. He did not feel at liberty to give up his post while hourly expecting assistance both by land and by sea. On the morning of the 16th he thought best to surrender, and arranged in the night to send off as many of his troops as he could spare. Sixteen large boats were made ready to receive his troops, and at ten o'clock at night, leaving bag and baggage, and by letter requesting General Washington to capitulate and to care for the sick and wounded, his men set out to cross the river. Some of his troops succeeded in landing at Gloucester, but a violent storm of wind and rain set in, driving all the boats, some of which had troops on board, down the river. In consequence, the troops had to return, and again join his main army in the forenoon. The galling fire of the Americans and the expenditure of shell made further loss of life cruel. He therefore requested a capitulation.

On the day of the surrender Governor Clinton set out from New York for the relief of Cornwallis with twenty-five ships of the line and seven thousand of his choicest men. He had barely reached the coast of Virginia when, off the Capes, to his utter astonishment and dismay, he learned he had delayed too long, and that Cornwallis had surrendered to General Washington. He, therefore, returned with his fleet to New York.

The surrender of Cornwallis was most humiliating. It is related that afterwards, "when standing before Washington with his hat off, the latter remarked: 'My Lord, you had better be covered.' 'It matters not, sir,' replied Cornwallis, raising his hand to his brow; 'it matters not what becomes of this head now.'"

The news of this great triumph spread speedily throughout the country. Bells were rung, bonfires were kindled, and expressions of joy were heard in every town and hamlet. Men and women wept, while others stood speechless with joy and gratitude. "The aged doorkeeper in Congress died from excessive joy."

This speedy and long hoped for over-ruling of Providence in the memorable siege of Yorktown and the surrender of Lord Cornwallis gave to the struggle for our national independence the hour of complete triumph. More than seven thousand British troops surrendered as prisoners of war, exclusive of fifteen hundred seamen, more than two thousand of whom were either wounded or sick. The frigate "Guadaloupe," twenty-four transports, one hundred and sixty pieces of cannon and eight

mortars fell into the hands of the Americans. The French, who had so nobly assisted in this triumph, were most heartily and gratefully thanked by Washington and his entire army.

During this engagement it was reported of the Connecticut forces "that their conduct was highly meritorious." Of thirty-six companies commanded by Lafayette ten had been detached from the Connecticut line. In October they held the post of honor, and helped "to carry the redoubts" on the night of the 14th.\*

On the 20th of October, 1781, General Washington sent out a proclamation of pardon to all criminals of the army, and ordered that the 21st be made a day of prayer and thanksgiving, in the following words:

"Divine service shall be performed to-morrow in the different brigades & divisions. The Commander-in-Chief recommends that all the troops that are not upon duty do assist in it, with a serious deportment, & that sensibility of heart which the recollection of the surprising & particular interposition of Providence in our favor claims."

On the 3d of November, 1782, provisional articles of peace were signed at Versailles between the English plenipotentiaries and the French and Spanish, and on the same day between Great Britain and the United States of America at Paris, but it was not until January 20, 1783, that the final treaty of peace was concluded by John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, John Jay and Henry Laurens, when the independence of the United States was acknowledged, their boundaries adjusted and a share of the fisheries secured to them.

On the 19th of April, 1783, General Washington issued the joyous proclamation of peace between the two countries; and in December following, after issuing his farewell address, he disbanded his army.

The British evacuated New York November 25, 1783, since celebrated in New York as Evacuation Day. As they left, Washington and his officers and army, with Governor Clinton, entered the city. The British flag, which had floated over Fort George for seven years, was replaced by the Stars and Stripes of the United States.

#### ORDER OF CININNATI.

Before parting with his officers Washington united with them in forming the famous Society of the "Order of Cinnati," so named in remembrance of the celebrated Roman warrior Cincinnatus, who conquered the invaders of his country and then retired to private life. A mutual agreement was entered into, with a view of promoting the highest rights

\* Record of Connecticut Men of the War of the Revolution, pp. 305, 306.

of freedom and to cherish mutual assistance, union and honor between the State; "to render permanent, cordial affections, & the spirit of brotherly kindness among the officers, & to extend acts of beneficence towards those officers & their families who may unfortunately be under the necessity of receiving it. The general society for the sake of frequent communications shall be divided into State societies, & then again into such districts as the State societies shall direct. The Society shall have an order by which its members shall be known & distinguished, *which shall be a medal of gold of proper size to receive the proposed emblems, and to be suspended by a deep blue ribbon two inches wide, edged with white, descriptive of the union of America and France.*" This order was to be perpetuated in the line of the eldest male descendants of the original members, or, failing such descendants, by the admission of such collateral relations as might be deemed worthy. There was also a provision for admitting as honorary members persons who had not belonged to the army.\*

Among those who were admitted to this honorable Society were Captain Theophilus Monson of Fairfield, Lieutenant Daniel Bradley of Greenfield, Lieutenant William Pike of Fairfield, Major Albert Chapman of Green's Farms. The Rev. Timothy Dwight of Greenfield was made an honorary member July 7, 1795.†

The heroic sons of Connecticut returned to their homes after the toil and hardships of many battles lost and won. Connecticut had bravely borne her share of the struggle. Guided in all her efforts for liberty by Governor Jonathan Trumbull and his patriotic Assembly and Council of War, "she had furnished more men in the army than any other State in the Union. No less than thirty-one thousand, nine hundred and thirty-nine men from our patriotic State were sent into the army."‡

Fairfield largely contributed her share of officers and soldiers, as well as to the maintenance of the army. Her patriotism increased as time passed. But she was not as generous in her offers of peace to those of her inhabitants who had gone over to the enemy as General Washington had been to the Tory offenders of the army. The following town record will testify that their treachery to the cause of freedom was not easily overlooked.

At a Town meeting held in Fairfield April 10th, 1783, it was

"Voted: The inhabitants being called to meet principally for the purpose of considering what measures they would wish to have taken with respect to those persons who, during the war between Great Britain and America, have gone to and joined the enemy, and put themselves under their protection:—

"The question is put whether this meeting is willing that any of those persons who have gone over to and joined the enemy, and put themselves under their protection as aforesaid, should be permitted to return and reside in this Town:

And passed in the negative.

\* Gordon, Hildreth, Hollister's Hist. Conn., Vol. 2, p. 420.

† Record of Connecticut Men in the War of the Revolution, p. 374.

‡ Hollister's Hist. Conn., Vol. II, p. 421.



"Voted—That a committee be appointed to remove all such persons from this Town who are now in it, or may hereafter come into it, who have gone over to and joined the enemy, & put themselves under their protection during the war between Great Britain & the United States of America."\*

Many applications were made by the banished ones, as well as vain efforts to have the taxes abated which had been laid upon the families of those who had joined the ranks of the enemy. These taxes it appears were laid upon the families of those who joined the British forces, in order that some repair might be made for the injury which such a course had done to the Commonwealth. As time passed, however, these grievances were pardoned, and many returned to renew their allegiance to the State and to the town of Fairfield.

Through the energy of the leading spirits of the town the churches were rebuilt. Mr. Eliot received from his friends and relatives in Boston considerable aid toward rebuilding Christ Church and parsonage. For a time his people found it difficult to raise money enough to support him after his church was burned by the British. The society sold the iron and nails of the Meeting-house, and applied the proceeds towards building the new Court-house. For more than five years the people were summoned to the services of the Congregational Church by the beating of a drum. The new Meeting-house was raised June, 1785, and so far completed by the 26th of March, 1786, that services were regularly kept up. A new bell was purchased, and rung daily, at twelve o'clock in the summer and at nine o'clock in the evening during the year.

The rebuilding of the Episcopal Church labored under many disadvantages; but by the untiring zeal and energy of the Rev. Dr. Philo Shelton, who had been called to take charge of Trinity Church in September, 1779, it was begun, as voted by the town, on the Military Parade Green at Mill Plain. It was so far completed by September 5, 1790, as to be opened for church services and "dedicated to the service of Almighty God"; but it was not formally consecrated by Bishop Abraham Jarvis until October, 1798.†

A new academy was erected on the grounds southwest of the Meeting-house Green, facing on the main street, which became a flourishing institution.

The old jail was rebuilt on the same ground a little to the east of the

\* Fairfield Town Records.

† Hist. Sketch of Trinity Church, Southport, Rev. Edmund Guilbert, D.D. Appendix—Genealogical, Shelton. This church was taken down and removed to Southport in 1841.

Academy, which in after years, when the county court house was removed from Fairfield to Bridgeport, was purchased by the Episcopalians of Fairfield, and converted into a church, which, when thoroughly repaired, beautified and adorned, was named St. Paul's Church. The solid brick walls of the jail still form the main portion of the church, while the roof and interior is designed after the Gothic order of architecture. It was beautifully furnished, and presents a thoroughly churchly appearance.

And here within the prison walls, where once the self-sacrificing missionaries and churchmen of the Church of England wept and bewailed the severity of our Puritan ancestors, now rises on every Lord's Day the "Glory be to God on High, Peace, good will to men." Truly the Lion and the Lamb have lain down together, and there is peace in Israel.

In October, 1791, the General Assembly passed a resolution by which "equal rights and privileges" were granted "to Christians of all denominations" in the State of Connecticut. And that all moneys arising from the sale of the territory belonging to this State, lying west of the State of Pennsylvania, be, and the same is hereby established as a perpetual fund, the interest whereof is granted and shall be appropriated to the use and benefit of the several ecclesiastical societies, churches, or congregations of all denominations in this State, to be by them applied for the support of their respective ministers or preachers of the gospel, and schools of education; under such rules and regulations as shall be hereafter adopted by the Assembly."

About 1787 a newspaper called "The Fairfield Independent Gazette" was published by Miller, Forgue and Bulkley in the Jonathan Bulkley Tavern behind the Court-house. Forgue was a son of the distinguished Dr. Francis Forgue.

New and commodious dwellings were erected on the sites of the old homesteads which had been destroyed by the British, and Fairfield once more presented something of her old time appearance; but it has never been the bustling, thriving town of previous days. Newfield, now Bridgeport, with its fine harbor at the mouth of the Pequonnock River, speedily became a flourishing city, drawing trade and merchandise to its busy marts by sea and by land. But Black Rock continued to be the seaport of Fairfield, and merchantmen sailing to European ports and the West Indies, whaling vessels and sloops for home ports were frequently seen gliding out and returning into its fine harbor. Mill River and Saugatuck also sent out vessels laden with grain, etc., for home ports.

From having been one of the most beautiful and industrial towns in New England, Fairfield now became the centre of intellectual culture, refinement and social intercourse. The meetings of the county courts brought together the legal talent of the State, and gentlemen of wealth and distinction settled among its inhabitants, among whom were the late Dr. Isaac Bronson of Greenfield Hill; the distinguished Chancellor James Kent of New York City, whose father, Moss Kent, was one of the patriots of Fairfield in the Revolution, and married Mrs. Hazzard, a daughter of a Mr. Wakeman of Green's Farms, and whose house was burned by the British in 1779;\* Captain Abraham Dudley Baldwin, an active and energetic officer of Greenfield during the Revolution, who was named after his distinguished uncle, United States Senator Abraham Baldwin, one of the framers of the Constitution of the United States; and General Elijah Abel, an active political and military officer of the Revolution who resided at Fairfield in the homestead of Justice Nathan Gold.

The name of Joseph Earl Sheffield is one which will always be remembered with pride and gratitude.\* He was born in his father's home at Southport, Conn., June 19, 1793, and was the son of Paul King Sheffield, and his wife Mabel, daughter of Captain Eliphalet Thorp. He served when but about twelve years of age as a coast-guard, in the war of 1812.\* Taking advantage of every opportunity for education which the impoverished condition of our families afforded after the Revolution, he raised himself to honor, wealth and distinction. In 1822 he married Maria, a daughter of Colonel T. St. John of Walton, Delaware County, New York. After residing in Mobile, Alabama, some years, he removed to New Haven, Conn., with his wife and children. Some twenty years after he purchased land and a house adjoining his home, enlarged the house and added class-rooms, laboratories and library for the Scientific School of Yale College, and added at a later date additional building. "more extensive, at an aggregate cost, including site, buildings & equipment, of over \$400,000." He engaged in various large business projects, which increased his wealth. Beside his liberal donations to the Sheffield Yale Scientific School, he contributed liberally to the Berkeley Divinity School in Middletown, Connecticut, and to Trinity College, Hartford. He gave twenty acres of land in Chicago to the Theological Seminary of the Northwest; besides handsome donations to the Young Men's Institute, Trinity Parish School and other institutions in New Haven; and

\* Appendix.

\$500 to Trinity Church, Southport, when destroyed by fire in 1854. His amiable wife joined with him in generous deeds of charity to all classes and conditions of men and women, so that it may be truly said of them:

"None knew them but to love;  
None named them but to praise."

Both Mr. and Mrs. Sheffield lived to a ripe old age. He died in 1882, aged eighty-nine, leaving handsome bequests to the Sheffield Scientific School and other charitable institutions.\*

Frederic Marquand whose name as one of the famed jewelers of New York City, is another son of Fairfield to be remembered for his generous gifts of a fine stone public library and valuable books to Southport; the Marquand Chapel to Yale College, and the Marquand Chapel to Princeton College, New Jersey. To his brother, Henry G. Marquand, the country is largely indebted for valuable pictures and works of art presented to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.

The name of Jonathan Godfrey was known as a tower of strength in church and state, and his generous gifts to the Berkeley Divinity School, Trinity College and Trinity Church, Southport, with his warm, sympathetic heart and generosity to the poor and needy, will long be remembered with love and respect.

Still another name is that of Francis D. Perry, loved and cherished for his kindly nature and pure Christian life, who bequeathed his home at Southport for a Rectory to Trinity Church, and left handsome sums of money to Trinity Church and to the Congregational and Methodist churches.

Morris W. Lyon, born in the early part of the nineteenth century, is another name to be remembered with pride, as a generous and prime mover and benefactor in furnishing a beautiful and substantial public library to the town of Fairfield.

There are many other names worthy of mention, but to record their deeds of patriotism and charities would fill a volume. It is with pride and reverence we recall all those who have made themselves pillars of strength in the beautiful historic town of Fairfield.

\* Barnard's American Journal of Education, No. 10, July 15th, Vol. 3.





# APPENDIX

No. I

## POST ROADS

INNS BETWEEN BOSTON AND NEW YORK IN 1697

"The several stages (in 1697) from the city of New York to Boston, & where travelers may be accommodated.

"From *New York* to *Boston* it is accounted 274 miles, thus—viz.: From the Post Office in *New York* to *Jo Clapp's* in the Bowery is 2 miles (which generally is the bating place, where Gentlemen take leave of their friends, going so long a journey) & where a parting glass or two of generous Wine,

*"If well applyd, makes their dull horses feel,  
One spur i' th' Head is worth two in the heel."*

From said <i>Clapp's</i> to halfway House.....	7 miles.
Thence to <i>King's Bridge</i> .....	9 "
" " <i>Old Shute's</i> at Eastchester.....	6 "
" " <i>New Rochel</i> Meeting-house.....	4 "
" " <i>Joseph Horton's</i> .....	4 "
" " <i>Denham's</i> at Rye.....	4 "
" " <i>Knap's</i> at Horse Neck.....	7 "
" " <i>Dan Weedse's</i> at Stamford.....	7 "
" " <i>Belden's</i> at Norwalk.....	10 "
" " <i>Burr's</i> at Fairfield.....	10 "
" " <i>T. Knowles's</i> at Stratford.....	8 "
" " <i>Andrew Sandford's</i> at Milford.....	4 "
" " <i>Capt. John Mills'</i> at New Haven.....	10 "
" " <i>Te Widow Frisbie's</i> at Brandford.....	10 "
" " <i>John Hobson's</i> at Guilford.....	10 "
" " <i>John Grissell's</i> at Killinsworth.....	10 "
" " <i>John Clarke's</i> at Seabrook.....	10 "
" " <i>Mr. Plum's</i> , New London.....	10 "
" " <i>Mr. Saxton's</i> .....	15 "
" " <i>Mr. Pemberton's</i> in the Narragansett Country.....	15 "
" " <i>French Town</i> .....	24 "
" " <i>Mr. Turpin's</i> .....	20 "
" " <i>Mr. Woodcock's</i> .....	15 "
" " <i>Mr. Billingsse's</i> Farm.....	11 "
" " <i>Mr. White's</i> .....	6 "
" " <i>Mr. Fisher's</i> .....	6 "

& from thence to the great Town of Boston 10 miles where many good Lodgings & Accommodations may be had for Love & Money.

I wish to have preserved in the columns of the "Courant" a list of the inns between

Boston & New York in 1697. It is copied (original orthography followed) from a New York almanac for that year which, the preface says, is the first almanac ever made in the province of New York. You will see that the route in 1697 is nearly identical with that adopted in 1853 by the recently proposed "*new through railroad line from New York to Boston*," the projectors of which seem (for railroad people) to have a remarkable regard for the footsteps of their ancestors.

The reader will bear in mind that this route was in 1697 only practicable for travelers upon horseback, who usually accompanied the post rider.

DATCHET.

## No. II

### FAIRFIELD

The testimony of Mary Beers, wife to Reuben Beers of Fairfield, of lawful age, is as follows; viz.:

That about one of the clock succeeding the 7th inst. a picket of Hessians in General Garth's division broke into our house & thereupon I came out of the cellar with two small children & a negro child, & on opening the cellar door, they cried out, Kill her, kill her, & came at me with a number of fixed bayonets: I begged & intreated, implored & prayed, to spare my life & run back down cellar & opened the out cellar door & went into the door yard, with the afores<sup>d</sup> three children, & I found there a number of enemy with an officer: I expostulated with them, I told the officer that my husband was sick, & had not been out for two days then past, that he was a sick man & in bed, when they came to the house, that he was not in arms, & begged his life & property, whereupon the capt. said he was not killed but was a prisoner: whereupon I applied to the gen<sup>l</sup> as I supposed, who was a Hessian called: I asked protection for myself, children, & property, & release of my husband. Said Hessian general & a colonel said my husband should be used well, that my person, children, house & property should be safe, but said he (the gen<sup>l</sup> laying his hand on the head of my little babe) Poor child I pity you, I cannot spare your house it must be burnt: thereupon up came the officer of those who first broke into the house, & he said, Go woman in haste you may perhaps put the fire out of your house: & I went protected by a guard who behaved decently, & I found my house effectually plundered of linnen by them, & great destruction of moveables in the house, & I extinguish'd the fire. Whereupon I went to the house of David Beers who to my knowledge was in peace at home with his wife & family, & they enter'd the s<sup>d</sup> house with violence, & took Mr. Beers prisoner, & plunder'd his house, & pretended that he had fired out of his house but it was groundless; & in the morning, without distinction, they burnt his house & shop, & all moveables left in them. Their behaviour was like distracted or mad men, & pretended many of them not to speak English. And further saith not.

MARY BEERS.

Fairfield July 24th 1779, Personally appeared Mary Beers above named & made oath to the truth of the above.

Before me Andrew Rowland Jus. P.

Reuben Beers above named personally appear'd & made oath that he agrees with the above named Mary Beers, his wife, in all the parts of her narrative so far as he is knowing & adds that by the intreat & request of David Beers aforesam'd on application to Genl

Tryon, & his own request & information that he had a large family of small children & wife, that he supposed his house & property was destroyed, the genl at the place of embarkation released him.

Sworn before me Andrew Rowland Jus. P.

The testimony of Abigail Bulkley, wife of Josiah Bulkley of lawful age is as follows, viz.:

That the enemy on their coming to the west end of the town, on the night of the 7th inst. they enquired after my husband. I told them that he was out of the town & was not under arms, however they plundered my house of almost all the moveables in it. I with Mrs. Beardsley who was supposed to be in travel & the officers there behaved decently to me, & by the aid & assistance of one of them, I saved my house, & some trifle of furniture from flames. It appeared to me that there was a number of Hessians at liberty to act without restraint, & further saith not.

ABIGAIL <sup>her</sup>X BULKLEY Jun<sup>r</sup>.  
mark

SS. Fairfield July 23d 1779.

Personally appeared Abigail Bulkley above named & made oath to the truth of the above.

Before me Andrew Rowland Jus. Ps.

The testimony of Jane Bulkley wife to Andrew Bulkley of lawful age is as follows, viz.:

That when the enemy entered the town of Fairfield that part of the army under the command of General Garth were stationed in the westerly part of the town & a number of officers & men came to my house, & received such refreshment as they required, & said that persons who staid in their houses, should be safe in person & property, & at their request I went & milked my cow & gave them the milk, whereupon the cow was led away by them & killed; my house was fir'd five times & I extinguished it. The men were at full liberty & behaved with great licentiousness. I heard a number of under officers at my door, say that before morning every house would be laid in ashes, that we should not fare so well as New Haven: they plundered my house, stripped my buckles out of my shoes, & abused me with insulting language. Their officers had not or did not exercise command over them, so as in the least to restrain them. They continued burning houses & barns the whole night. I had a protection from General Garth by word & he ordered a guard for me but it served only to save my property 'till daylight, & then my house was plundered & attempted to be burnt. The latter part of the night the soldiers appear'd to be in drink, they plunder'd a plenty of spirituous liquors. And further saith not.

JANE BULKLEY.

Fairfield July 24th 1779.

Fairfield July 24th 1779.

Personally appeared Jane Bulkley & made oath to the truth of the above.

Before me Andrew Rowland Jus. Ps.

The testimony of Eunice Burr wife of Thaddeus Burr Esq. respecting the proceedings of the enemy at Fairfield on the 7th & 8th days of July 1779, is as followeth viz.

On Wednesday morning between 9 & 10 o'clock the 7th July some friends came in



& told me that they believed that the enemy's shipping were standing in, & that it was their opinion, that the enemy wo'd land; being formerly well acquainted with a number of the British officers, & ever finding them of a polite humane disposition, & observing the good order they kept up among their soldiers, I was induced, once, to act against all the entreaties of my friends, & risque my life & all that is dear to me, in hopes to save an ancient pleasant mansion house, with its valuable furniture & stores. This I was the more willing to undertake, as I had been told, "that if people would stay in their own houses, they, the enemy, would not molest nor disturb them, & their property would be safe."

By the time that the main body of the enemy had got up to the court house, instead of the once humane & polite Britons, a pack of the most barbarous ruffians came rushing into the house, & repeatedly accosted me with you *Dam Rebel* where is your husband, he is a selectman—at the same time striping me of my buckles, taring down the curtains of my bed, breaking the frame of my dressing glass, pulling out the draws of my table & desk; & after taking what they could find, they then went up stairs & proceeded much in the same manner. At this juncture there came in an officer, who, I suppose was a capt. & demanded the arms; those which I knew of were produced, & he immediately ordered them out of the house & upon my representation of the conduct of the ruffians towards me, he ordered them out of the house. No sooner were one set out, but another came in, calling for syder, breaking down the china, stone & glass ware in the closets & where ever they found it. In the midst of this confused state General Tryon came into the house. He behaved with politeness. He demanded the papers. I told him there were none but of very old dates which related to old estates. The general said, Those are what we want, for we intend to have the estates—upon which he ordered an officer to take them to the court house. Very soon after he had taken leave of me there came in a set more dreadfull than the ruffians who first attacked me. These being informed, or suspicious, that I was possessed of a watch, attempted to search me. I drew back to the yard, the only shelter that I had, & there committed myself to that God, whose protection & mercy is beyond the reach of such cruel monsters. They however were permitted to pursue me, throw me upon the ground, & search me, pulling & taring my cloths from me in a most barbarious manner, no intreaties or persuasions prevailing upon them to desist. Heaven directed the steps of the aforementioned captain to the gate, who perceiving the horrid situation that I was in, ran to my relief, & drove the ruffians from the yard. Soon after this General Tryon (with Mr. Thomas Chapman of Stratford, who is said to be a capt. in the New Levies) called in. Mr. Chapman made himself known to me, upon which I reminded him of his often waiting on a more soft & delicate set of company to the house, than those I had been visited with in the course of the day—asked him if he could have a heart to burn the house where he had spent so many agreeable hours, upon which he assured me he would do everything in his power to save the building.

General Tryon upon hearing the aforesaid captain relate the situation he found me in, was kind enough to order two centrys at the house, which caused me a more quiet night than I feared, tho' horror & distress were my constant companions, great part of the town being in flames. Just before sunrise Capt. Chapman came to me very politely, & told me that General Tryon wanted to speak to me. I immediately waited on him. He told me that through the entreaties of Mr. Sayer & some other friends, & knowing my situation, he should spare my buildings, Mr. Eliot's, the church & meeting-house—that he did not like destroying those buildings. I told him that I was obliged to him for the favor, & felt as happy to have those buildings saved as my own, & that I thought he wo'd do himself honor. He asked for pen, ink & paper. I very readily procured them.

He then unasked & unsolicited by me, gave me a protection for my house & property, & the Rev'd Mr. Eliot's, written with his own hand & signed with his own name. Thus deluded with a false hope, after the fatigue of the day, night, & more dreadful morning, when every building around me was on fire, & some of my poor neighbours, whose habitations were in flames, had run into my house for shelter, instead of attempting to carry out & secure what was in the house, our whole attention was taken up in supplying the house with water, & altho' they were almost buried in flames, neither the barn or house took fire. The pleasure & satisfaction I felt for a few minutes in thinking I had a shelter for myself & some of my distressed friends, was great. But alas! how soon was it over. No sooner had the horn blew, I suppose for the whole to retreat, my centrys went off & a band of those savage creatures were left as a rear guard to compleat the destruction—some of whom, unperceived by me, came into the house. I heard a most dreadful screeching in one of the rooms, upon which I ran to it, & to my great surprise found some of those monsters abusing an aged lady, one of my neighbours, by pulling off her cap & tearing the hair from her head. Her daughter, who had fled there for protection fared but little better. Seeing a number more of them come into the gate. I once more took courage, went out & intreated them to spare the house; told them that I had General Tryon's protection in writing; upon which they damned the general & protection too & tore it from me. While a number went into the house to set fire to it, two or three others came to search me, they took my pocket book & buttons, which till then I had preserved. Fearing that I should be insulted as I had been before, I disengaged my pocket & fled into the meadow.

The house with everything they had left, both furniture & stores were consumed. Much more might be told, both of officers & soldiers, which wo'd bring disgrace upon the once humane, but now savage Britons, but it wo'd make this narrative too lengthy. One more instance of their cruelty I must not fail to relate. On a bare suspicion, that a gun was fired from a window, by an aged negro of my neighbour Lewis's, they first shot him, then bayoneted him, as my centry, who was one of the number told me; & left his body to be consumed by the flames which were immediately kindled in the dwelling house.

Should this narrative fall into the hands of any of those gentlemen officers, who afforded me assistance, in those hours of horror & distress, they have my sincere thanks for it.

Fairfield SS. On the 2 day of August 1779 personally appeared Eunice Burr, wife of Thaddeus Burr Esqr & made oath to the above & foregoing narrative.

Before me. Sam'l Squier Just. Peace.

The testimony of Ann Nichols of lawful age & wife to Hez. Nichols of Fairfield is as follows, viz.—

That when the troops under the command of General Tryon came into Fairfield I was peaceably at home, & thereupon one of the soldiers came to me & with strong hand robbed me of the buckles out of my shoes, & in the course of the night I was often treated with extravagant, insulting, & abusive language & threatning at my own house. I told them my husband was from home, but it availed nothing, & in the course of the night, the soldiers appeared to have full liberty, & many came in parties at different hours, & destroyed almost everything of furniture, & in the morning burnt down the house & barn, whereupon I saw General Tryon who appeared to be exceeding angry at something, I know not what, & I heard him tell a person that he would not spare one house more than another. One Thomas Chapman formerly of Stratford a tory was called a Captain.

& appeared to be a principal hand in burning. I escaped from the conflagration of the town in the morning & concealed myself in a wet ditch & miry swamp. The soldiers generally appeared to be in a great panic thro' the night, & exceeding afraid that the rebels as they called us would be upon the(m) in the morning early.

ANN NICHOLS.

Fairfield County ss Fairfield July 21st 1779.

Personally appeared the above named Mrs. Ann Nichols & made oath to the truth of the same.

Before me Andrew Rowland Jus. Ps.

The testimony of Lucretia Readfield wife to John Readfield of Fairfield of lawful age is as follows, viz.

That in the evening succeeding the 7th of inst. July the enemy under command of Gen<sup>l</sup> Tryon came to my house & there found me with one child peaceably at home: three officers enquired of me for my husband. I told them he was from home & could not say whether under arms or not, whereupon they said one of their men had just before been taken prisoner near this house, & order'd the house to be fired, which was accordingly done, & I extinguish'd it. Whereupon night came on & thro' the whole night the soldiers went where they pleased and did as they pleased, without any restraint from their officers so far as I could observe, & they came to my house & abused me with abusive & insulting language, carriage & behaviour: They destroyed the furniture in the house, & attempted, with threats & promises, to prevail upon me to yield to their unchaste & unlawful desires. I obstinately denied them my body: three men then & there appeared intent to compass their wicked design, seized me & dragged me to the bed & attempted violence, but thanks to God there appeared that instant to come two persons who rescued me from their violence, one of whom told me he had been a prisoner in this town, & that he had received great civility from the inhabitants, & that he had an opinion of their being a worthy kind people, & those two persons protected me thro' the remainder of the night. My house was fir'd four times that night & next morning, & every time I extinguish'd it with great danger, & saved it & also a shop. Our mother Mrs. Readfield is an aged woman & wido. She lived in the house & was in peace at home. She was much insulted & abused, her cloaths were pulled indecently & her buckles stripped out of her shoes, her pockets violently seized & rifled, & the house in general rifled & plundered. And further this deponent saith not.

LUCRETIA READFIELD.

SS. Fairfield July 21st 1779.

Personally appear'd Lucretia Readfield the above deponent, & made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition.

Before me Andrew Rowland Jus. Ps.

The testimony of Ruana Roberson of lawful age, & wife of John Roberson of Fairfield is as follows, viz.

When the enemy on the evening of the 7th inst. first came into the westerly end of this town, I soon left my house & went to a neighbour's, which I heard was guarded, & there I found the general & a great number of officers, & one Mrs. Beardsley who belonged to the house was there, & pregnant, & appeared to be in travel. All the officers appeared disposed to treat her, & her assistance with decency, & in the course of the night, I often heard the officers & the general say, there should not be left a house or barn standing in the town by, or in the morning: there was but few soldiers in the house

& they employed in waiting on tables, & they spared that dwelling house on account of Mrs. Beardsley, who was supposed to be in labour. They said the Commissioners made offers of peace & the Americans refused to accept them, & that their orders was to burn all, & I understood the orders was from England: they said they would burn the church for that it was not the Church of England nor had it been since the war, for the professors did not comply with the articles of the Church of England. The Hessians appeared active in plundering & burning, & seemed not to understand English. I was at sundry houses where they came & plundered & they gave to understand they pursued orders. And further saith not.

her  
RUANA J ROBERSON.  
mark

Fairfield July 22d 1779.

Personally appeared Ruana Roberson & made oath to the truth of the above.

Before me Andrew Rowland Jus. Ps.

The testimony of Isabella Trubee wife of Ansel Trubee of Fairfield is as follows, viz. That when the enemy on the night of the 7th inst. came to the westerly end of the town they appeared to be generally Hessians, & I concealed myself with two children in the cellar under the dwelling house of uncle David Beers, & there continued untill the enemy set fire to the house. Mr. Beers aforesd was at home with his wife & daughter & some grandchildren in peace & about his lawful business, they seized him & made him prisoner. my aunt, his wife, told them he was unarm'd & had not shot a gun she supposed within thirty years, & thereupon they set fire to the house & burnt it down, & also his shop & all therein. About this time my father Mr. Jos<sup>h</sup> Beers came a few rods out of his house where he had been all day, in peace with my mother, & he was captivated by the Hessians & remains in captivity, & his house & barn was burnt & property destroyed. Mr. David Beers has since returned & says he was released at their embarkation.

her  
ISABELLA | TRUBEE.  
mark

SS. Fairfield July 23d 1779.

Personally appeared Isabella Trubee abovesd & made oath to the above.

Before me Andrew Rowland Jus. Ps.

Rec. State Conn., Vol. II. pp. 546-553.

### No. III

The committee appointed by the General Assembly in October 1779 to appraise the losses of each individual who had suffered by the conflagration & depredations of the enemy in Fairfield on the 7th & 8th of July made the following returns, Dated at Fairfield April 27th 1780.

### DAMAGE SUSTAINED IN THE TOWN OF FAIRFIELD.

Account of the losses sustained in the town of Fairfield by the British, valued as in the year 1774.

At Greens Farms—The meeting house & bell, £600; Rev. Mr. Ripley's house & barn,



£300, also clothing, provisions, furniture, &c., £114:2:6; Nathan Godfrey's house, barn, clothing, furniture, & provisions, £362:18; Grummond Morehouse's house, barn, provisions, &c., £80:4:5; Doct. Ebenezer Jessup's house, barn, corn house, furniture, provisions, &c., £421:2:6; Simon Couch's house, barn, provisions, furniture, &c., £224:12; Widow Eunice Morehouse's house, barn, clothing, furniture, &c., £103:6; Ebenezer Morehouse's house, barn & provisions, &c., £122:7:2; George Batterson's house, furniture, &c., £53:11; John Davis' house, furniture, provisions, clothing, &c., £58:16; Abraham Andrews' house, barn, store, clothing, furniture, &c., £468:10:5; Widow Sarah Andrews' house, barn, clothing, provisions, &c., £156:14; Jessup Wakeman's house, barn, provisions, clothing, furniture, &c., £194:18; Gideon Morehouse's house, barn, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c., £73:14; John Morehouse's barn, &c., £253:19; Moss Kent's house, clothing, provisions, & furniture, &c., £316:2.

At The Old Society of Fairfield—Stephen Thorp's house, barn, store-house, clothing, provisions, furniture &c., £746:17; Aaron Jennings' store-house, clothing, provisions, furniture &c., £91:19; Eliphalet Thorp's house, barn, storehouse, provisions, clothing, furniture, &c., £639; Increase Bradley's house, storehouse, provisions, clothing, furniture, &c., £150; Jonathan Darrow's house, barn, clothing, & provisions, &c., £306:9; Samuel Sturges' house, shop, provisions, furniture, &c., £280:3:3; James Bulkley, clothing, provisions, & furniture, £18:4; Moss Bulkley's house, £40; David Beers' house, shop, clothing, provisions & furniture, £196:3; Joseph Beers' house, barn, clothing, provisions, furniture &c., £132:12; Reuben Beers' house, shop, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c., £530:6; Nathaniel Pierson's house, clothing &c., £90; Samuel Beers' house, clothing, provision, furniture &c., £141:19:7; Solomon Sturges' house, barn, store, clothing, provisions, furniture &c., £270; David Barlow's house, barn, clothing, provisions, furniture &c., £387:12:6; Jabez Thorp's house, barn, clothing, provisions, furniture &c., £181:13; Samuel Burr's house, barn, shop, furniture, provisions &c., £761:7:5; Hezekiah Sturges' house, two barns, a shop, clothing, provisions, furniture &c., £819:1:5; The heirs of Benjamin Osborn, a house, clothing, provisions, furniture &c., £186:13:6; Daniel Graham's barn, provisions, furniture, clothing &c., £20; The heirs of Joseph Sturges, a house, two barns, store, clothing, provisions, furniture &c., £400; The heirs of Peter Bulkley, a house, barn, clothing, provisions, furniture &c., £118:17; Ansel Trubee's house, furniture, clothing & provisions, £111:6; Jonathan Sturges' house, barn, store-house, clothing, provisions, & furniture, £759:2:6; William Lovejoy, house of Doct. Fergie, £160; The widow & heirs of Seth Osborn, two houses, a store, provisions, clothing & furniture, £553:7:6; Seth Sturges' house, barn, furniture, provisions & clothing, £453; Samuel Smedley's two houses, barn, shop, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c., £795; Stephen Jennings' house, barn, provisions, furniture & clothing, £279; David Jennings' house, shop, provisions, furniture & clothing, £310:10; Widow Elizabeth Sturges' house, clothing, provisions, & furniture, £100; The heirs of Andrew Jennings' house, clothing, furniture, & provisions, £255:17:6; John Smedley's two houses, clothing, provisions, &c., £792:18; The widow & heirs of Gershom Burr, a house, furniture, clothing, provisions, &c., £556:9:6; Ebenezer Wakeman's house, furniture, provisions, & clothing, £141:17:11; The Episcopal Society in Fairfield, a house & barn, £195; The heirs of Col. David Burr, house, barn, &c., clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £427:11:6. Andrew Rowland's house, barn, store, clothing, furniture, & provisions, £475; Hezekiah Nichol's house, barn, shop, furniture, provisions & clothing, £524:6; Joseph Squire's shop, clothing, provisions & furniture, £424:4:7; Samuel Rowland's house, barn, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £522:2:2; Widow Cutler's house, £30; Wakeman Burr's house, shop, furniture, clothing, & provisions, £456:12:11; William Dimon's house, shop, barn, clothing, furniture & provisions, £754:18:11; Thomas Hill's house, barn, corn-house,

clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £330; Doct. John Allens' house, two barns, store, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £830; Jonathan Lewis' house, four barns, store, corn-house, three out-houses, clothing, furniture, provisions, &c. £973:13:6; Thaddens Burr's house, barn, store, out-houses, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £1,590:19:8; Widow Ann Dimon's house, barn, & two out-houses, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £386:7:9; David Allen's two houses, barn, shop, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £551:18:2; Samuel Penfield's house, barn, shop, out-house, stable, provisions, furniture, clothing, &c. £1,120:10; Jonathan Maltbie's house damaged, £1:10, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £47:7; Doct. Nathaniel Lathrop, a house occupied by William Elliott, £180; Rev. Mr. Elliott's clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £365:1:2; Capt. Job Bartram's house, shop, two barns, store, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £1,210:3:8; Thomas Hanford Wakeman's house, barn, furniture, clothing, provisions, &c. £197:8; Doct. Francis Forgue, a barn & appendages, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £454; Widow Abigail Hubbell's house, provisions, furniture, clothing, &c. £214:16:6; Maj. Elijah Abel's house, barn, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £691:2:10; Stephen Turney's house damaged, two barns, provisions, clothing, furniture, &c. £94:5:10; The heirs of Ebenezer Burr, a house damaged £10; Abel Gold, a barn, clothing, provisions & furniture, £124; John Parsott's house, provisions, clothes, furniture, &c. £136:6:6; Eleazer Osborn, Jr's house, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £211:9:4; The widow of Col. Gold, house, provisions, furniture, clothing, &c. £282:15; Edward Budington, (property of Samuel Squire,) house, £80, clothing, provisions, &c. the property of said Budington, £57:8:10; John Wasson, a house, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £220; Capt. Ebenezer Bartram's house, £200; Samuel Squire, Jr., clothing, provisions, &c. £80:18:6; Abraham Parrot, clothing, provisions, &c. £4:11; Daniel Osborn's house, clothing, furniture & provisions, £246:15:6; George Allen's house, barn, shop, clothing, provisions & furniture, £316:9; Thomas Staples' house, barn, clothing, provisions & furniture, £294:2:2; Moses Jennings' house, barn, shop, clothing, provisions, &c. £697:13:6; Isaac Jennings' house, barn, shop, provisions, furniture, clothing, &c. £409:7:10; Peter Burr's house, barn, store, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £377:0:9; Anthony Anabel, a house & shop, £60; Widow Rebecca Jennings' house, £80, barn, £15, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £47:17; Peter Hendricks' house, clothing, furniture, provisions, &c. £392; Andrew Wakeman's house, clothing, &c. £252:18; Seth Smith's house, clothing, &c. £56:7; The Widow Smith's house, provisions, furniture, &c. £41:0:6; Joseph Smith's clothing, provisions, ———; Widow Hannah Taylor's house, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £45:4; Widow Mary Penfield's house, barn, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. £135; John Turney's two houses, barn, clothing, furniture, provisions, &c. £509:10; Capt. Samuel Squire's house, provisions, clothing, furniture, &c. £518:6:4; Jeremiah Jennings' house, provisions, clothing, furniture, &c. £220:8; The gaol & gaoler's houses, £500, clothing, provisions, furniture, &c. ———; The County house, £1,000; Two school houses, £115; The meeting-house, £1,200; The Episcopal church, £500; Nathan Thompson Nichol's house, £80, shop, £10, clothing, &c. £5:10.

Total—97 dwelling houses, 67 barns, 48 stores, 2 school houses, 1 county house, 2 meeting houses & 1 Episcopal church. Damage was done to other individuals not mentioned aforesaid, to the amount of £1,855:3:2; by the destruction of personal property, a large share of which was owned by widows & other females.\*

In May, 1787, Fairfield & the adjoining towns which had suffered from the attacks of the British, petitioned the General Assembly for the third time for a just remuneration of their losses. A final reply to these petitions was made in the following manner:

\* State Records Conn., 1780. Hinman's War of Revolution, pp. 616-618.

*Lands Given The Sufferers For Losses Sustained During The War.*

Upon a memorial in 1791 of the inhabitants of the towns of Fairfield & Norwalk, in Fairfield County, the great losses occasioned by the devastations of the British during the war were shown to the General Assembly; on which they prayed for remuneration from the State. A committee was appointed by the Legislature, in May, 1791, to ascertain from documents in the public offices, the losses, not only of the memorialists, but of others who had been sufferers under similar circumstances, that had been estimated in conformity to previous acts of the Assembly, such as had been occasioned by incursions of the enemy during the war. The Assembly, therefore, in May, 1792, by a resolution released & quit-claimed, to the sufferers, named on the State record, or to their legal representatives, if deceased, & to their heirs & assigns forever, 500,000 acres of land, owned by Connecticut, situated west of Pennsylvania, bounded north on Lake Erie, beginning at the west line of said lands, & extending eastward to a line running northerly & southerly parallel to the east line of said tract of land owned by this State, & extending the whole width of said lands, & easterly so far as to comprise said quantity of 500,000 acres (exclusive of former grants to sufferers, if any) to be divided among said sufferers & their legal representatives, in proportion to the several sums annexed to their names on record (which land is located in Huron County, in the State of Ohio).

The following sums were allowed to the sufferers in the several towns hereafter named, viz.:—Sufferers in Greenwich, £12,291: 14: 0¼; sufferers in Norwalk, £26,066: 0: 1; sufferers in Fairfield, £23,893: 12: 8.

Additional losses sustained by several inhabitants of Fairfield, in the enemy's expedition to Danbury, viz.:—£1,436: 10: 11; in Danbury £8,303: 17: 10¼; in New Haven & East Haven £16,912: 16: 6; in New London, £42,062: 13: 7; in Ridgefield, £1,730: 1: 10.

The sums advanced to Ridgefield by grants of the Assembly were deducted, & the net balances allowed.

To sufferers in Groton, £7,719: 12: 2.

Whole amount of losses allowed to the sufferers by the grant of said lands, being £251,606: 8: 8½.\*

\* State Records Conn., 1791. Hinman's War of Revolution, p. 627.

# GENEALOGICAL





# GENEALOGICAL

## ALLEN.

Gideon Allen 1 was at Swanzy in 1669, removed to Boston during Philip's war & afterwards to Milford. At Swanzy he had a son John by his wife Sarah, who died before his father. He left a widow & five children, Gideon; Sarah, & George twins 18 years old; Hannah 7, & Abigail 4 years of age. Savage makes a great mistake when he says that his second wife was Ann d. of Nathaniel Burr of Fairfield. See *Savage's Genealogical Dictionary*.

The Fairfield Town Records state that Dr. Gideon Allen m. Anna d. of Nathaniel Burr 2d, b. Jan. 1696. This m. occurring three years after the death of Gideon 1 of Milford, shows that Gideon 2. m. Anna Burr. The children of Gideon Allen 2, & Anna Burr were Sarah b. 1. April 1697; Anna 6. Jan. 1700; Gideon 7. Jan. 1702; Abigail 6. June 1705; Mary 6. Aug. 1708; John 5 Dec. 1710.

Sarah m. Thomas Couch of Greens Farms, 7. Dec. 1721; Mary m. Peter Penfield 28. May 1730.

John Allen became a distinguished physician at Fairfield & m. Abigail Jessup 17. Jan. 1751; Their children were: Gideon b. 19. Oct. 1751; Abigail 13. March 1753; Martha 1. April, 1755; Anna 19. Jan. 1757; John 14. Aug. 1759; James 14. July, 1762; Samuel 3. Aug. 1765; Sarah 25. Dec. 1768.

## ANDREWS.

John Andrews 1. b. in Essex, England, was a s. of Francis Andrews 1. of Hartford & later of Fairfield, did not marry Sarah d. of Simon Couch of Fairfield as stated in Vol. I. p. 350; but according to the town records of Middletown, Conn., he m. Bethiah Kirby b. Feb. 14. 1658 d. of John Kirby of Middletown. John Kirby, the father was b. in 1623 & d. in 1677. In the distribution of the estate of John Kirby by his widow Elizabeth, John Andrews of Fairfield was deeded, "in right of his wife's interest in her father's estate," her portion of his estate.

John Andrews 2. afterwards deeded, "by virtue of my father's right in my grandfather Kirby's estate certain lands within the town of Middletown, to my brother-in-law Richard Osborn of Eastchester, near Stamford, Conn."—Fairfield Town Rec. John Andrews 2. son of John 1. m. Sarah d. of Simon Couch about 1678.

John Andrews 3. s. of John 2. m. Abigail ——— & was bapt. at Christ's Church, Fairfield, with his son John 27. June, 1708.—Vol. I. p. 150.

John Andrews 4. son of John 3. married Sarah d. of Simon Couch Oct. 28. 1730 Their children were: Sarah b. Aug. 6. 1731; John March 17. 1734; Abraham Aug. 23. 1735; Abigail Dec. 13. 1736; Ellenor Aug. 4. 1738; Samuel Feb. 23. 1740; Isabel Sept. 20. 1742; Simon Oct. 28. 1744.—Reg. of Births, Marriages & Deaths of the Town of Fairfield 1692 to 1855. Sarah Andrews m. 1st Jonathan Nash & 2d Lieut. Nathan Godfrey of Green's Farms. Ellenor m. Dr. Edward Jessup a physician of high repute, & a brave & distinguished surgeon in the War of the Revolution. Abigail m. Daniel Sherwood; Isabel

m. Thomas Nash.—Fairfield Town Records. From John Andrews 5. & Lydia Gorham descended Judge Ebenezer Andrews of Chicago as follows: "Ebenezer Andrews, s. of John & Lydia Andrews m. Rachel Hyde of Greens Farms, who was a daughter of Arete Jessup & Joseph Hyde, & grand-daughter of Dr. Ebenezer Jessup & Eleanor Andrews. Judge Ebenezer Andrews was b. in Greens Farms, Conn., in 1795; graduated at Yale College in 1817, afterward became a teacher in Louisville, Ky.; studied law in Connecticut; moved to Elyria, Ohio, where he lived a short time; m. Rachel Hyde in 1825; moved to Milan, Ohio, where he practiced law for some years; was made judge in Sandusky, Erie Co., Ohio, afterwards removed to Chicago where he d. in 1864."

Contributed by Miss Eleanor Andrews d. of Judge Ebenezer Andrews of Milan, Ohio.

### CHAPMAN.

The Rev. Daniel Chapman born 14th of March, 1690, was a son of Deacon Nathaniel Chapman of Saybrook, one of the pioneers of that settlement; & a grandson of Robert Chapman, who tradition represents to have arrived at Boston, Mass., from Hull in Yorkshire, England, in 1635. He was a graduate of Yale College in 1707. Before settling at Green's Farms he married Grissel Lovell or Lovewell of Cape Breton. After settling at Green's Farms he married for second wife Grissel d. of Albert Dennie born 28. Feb. 1696, daughter of Albert Dennie & Elizabeth d. of Rev. Samuel Wakeman.—Fairfield Parish Records. He had seven children. The Rev. Daniel Chapman resigned his parish from ill-health, & died soon after Nov. 28th 1741. Mrs. Grissel Chapman, ye relic of ye Rev. Daniel Chapman departed this life 10 January, 1754.—Greens Farms Parish Records.

Dennie Chapman, son of Mr. Daniel Chapman, married Desire Lovel, Oct 4th 1750. Their children were

Elizabeth born Aug 12th 1751.

Mary born May 2nd 1753.

Lovel born Jan'y 14th 1755.

Dennie born Aug 28th 1757.

Capt. Phineas Chapman, son of Mr. Daniel Chapman, & Sarah Ketchum, daughter of Nathaniel Ketchum were married Sept. 22nd 1742.

Their children were

Daniel born Aug. 19th 1743.

Joseph born Aug. 29th 1745

Albert born Dec. 13th 1748.

James born April 8th 1750.

Molly born June 10th 1752.

Grissel born April 16th 1755.

John born Sept. 14th 1757.

Lieut. James Chapman s. of Lieut. Phineas Chapman & Abigail Sherwood were married March 4th 1779.

Their children were

Abigail born April 25th 1782.

James born March 28th 1784.

May born June 25th 1786.

Grissel born May 20th 1788.

Moses born Nov. 30th 1790.

Sarah born Nov. 12th 1792.

Lucy born April 1st 1795.

Samuel Sherwood Chapman born Oct 15th 1797.

Jeremiah Sherwood Chapman born Oct 8th 1780 (First born child).

Greens Farms Parish Record.

Major Albert Chapman, another s. of Phineas Chapman, was one of the most active officers in the Revolution. He was promoted major from the 7th Regiment March 5, 1778. He was taken prisoner by the British in his own house, while making an effort to escape with his family from them; & so severe was the treatment he received that ill health, compelled him to resign from the army Jan. 1, 1781, & return to his home in Green's Farms, where he died in 1782, leaving a family of children, of which the author finds no mention. Before his death he was made a member of the "Order of Cincinnati."

### CHAUNCY.

The Rev. Charles Chauncy b. 3rd Sept. 1668, was the eldest son of Rev. Israel Chauncy of Stratford, & his wife Mary d. of Isaac Nichols of same place. He was a grandson of Rev. Charles Chauncy, president of Cambridge College, & great grandson of George Chauncy of Yardly, Herts Co., England, about thirty-three miles from London. (Savage's Gen. Dic.) He m. 29th June, 1692, Sarah d. of John Burr. She died 15. Feb. 1698. He m. 16. March, 1699, second wife Sarah, d. of the third Henry Woolcot of Windsor, Conn. She died Jan. 1704. (Savage's Gen. Dic.) His third wife was Elizabeth ———.

In his will dated 24, Dec., 1714, he mentions wife Elizabeth & five children. Israel, John, Robert, Ichabod Woolcot, & d. Abiah. To his s. Israel he gave all his estate, "at Lambeth near ye city of Bristol in Great Britain." To his other sons & to his d. Abiah he left valuable land in New England and silver spoons & tankard. The Rev. Samuel Cook became guardian for his children during their minority. (*Fairfield Probate Records.*)

Abiah Chauncy was born 22, Jan., 1699. Ichabod Woolcot Jan., 7th, 1704.—(*Fairfield Town Records.*)

His widow Elizabeth Chauncy m. Richard Mills of New Haven. The year before his death the Rev. Charles Chauncy deeded "April, 13th 1713, to Benjamin Fairweather of Stratfield or Fairfield Village for the sum of £8, 6s. in money, the within mentioned island or neck of land," from that time called Fairweather Island.

Commodore Isaac Chauncey belonged to this family & was born at Black Rock Feb. 20, 1772. He served in the war of 1812. "He took three vessels at one time, & a large quantity of arms & stores. He died at Washington, D. C. aged 68 years & eleven months. At the time of his death he was President of the board of Navy Commissioners. He had the noble bearing of a gentleman and an officer. He left three sons, John & Charles, lieutenants in the Navy, & Peter a clergyman."\* He had previously served under Commodores Preble & Rogers in the war with Tripoli, 1804 & 5 became captain in 1806, & was placed in command of the naval forces on the northern lakes (except Champlain) in 1812. He carried General Dearborn's army to York (Toronto) in April 1813, & in October defeated an English fleet of seven vessels, capturing five, on Lake Ontario.†

\* William Wheeler's Journal.

† The Century Dictionary and Cyclopedia.



## COOKE.

The Rev. Samuel Cooke was the son of Thomas & Sarah Cooke of Guilford, Conn., & was born Nov. 22, 1687. He graduated at Yale College in 1705. He married Nov. 30, 1708, Miss Annie Trowbridge, d. of John & Annie Trowbridge of New Haven b. July 27, 1688.

It appears that the Rev. Samuel Cooke had four wives. By his first wife Annie Trowbridge he had five children, viz.: Thomas born 1st Sept. 1709; Samuel 22nd July 1711; Sarah 8th June 1713; John 31st March 1715; (these children were born at New Haven) Annie 4th April, 1718, & William 29th May 1720. The last two were born at Stratfield.

Mrs. Annie Cooke died 11th Aug. 1721.

The Rev. Mr. Cooke soon after married Esther the widow of John Sloss, & the daughter of Nathaniel Burr of Fairfield. At her death he married Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph Platt, & by her had one son named Joseph Platt Cooke. She died on the 16th of May 1732, aged 31 years, when Mr. Cooke married Abigail the widow of Rev. Joseph Moss. This marriage was performed at Derby 6th Aug. 1733 by Major John Burr."

Sarah Cooke daughter of the Rev. Samuel Cooke was married to Deacon James Sherman Jan. 17th 1734, in the meeting-house on a lecture day.

## BURR

\* Col. John Burr was born in May 1673. He was the son of Nathaniel Burr & grand-son of John Burr. His will was probated at Fairfield, April 26th, 1750. In this will he mentions wife Elizabeth, the widow of Captain Joseph Wakeman by a marriage covenant made 29th of March 1727; & children Abigail Hubbell & Mary Smedley; sons John & Joseph Burr, & grand-sons Ebenezer & David Dimon. "He died in 1750, aged 79, was buried in the old Stratfield burial ground, situated on the King's Highway."† The remains of his wife Elizabeth, rest in the old Burial Hill Cemetery at Fairfield, having died Aug. 18th 1753, in the 74th year of her age.

Andrew Burr son of Mr. John Burr b. Sept. 27, 1696, m. Sarah Sturgis d. of Mr. Jonathan Sturgis April 30, 1719, & by her had thirteen children, namely:

Ann born Feb 6, 1719|20

David born July 5, 1722

Andrew born July 24, 1724

Elizabeth born June 22, 1726

Lucretia born May 28, 1728

Mary born May 22, 1730

John born March 11, 1731|32

Susanah born April 29, 1734

George born May 26, 1736

Joseph born July 15, 1738

Walter born Sept. 9, 1740

Sarah born Sept. 23, 1742

Oliver born Nov 10, 1745

Mrs. Sarah Sturgis Burr died 9 Dec. 1745. Col. Andrew Burr afterwards m. Sarah Stanley of Hartford in 1747. By this marriage he had one child, Jerusha Burr, born Dec 3, 1749.

\* See Fairfield Probate Records of Marriages and Births.

† Journal of William Wheeler.

Col. Andrew Burr died Nov 9, 1763, in the 68th year of his age. His wife Sarah Stanley Burr died 29. Aug. 1769, in the 61st year of her age.

All of Col. Andrew Burr's children were baptized at Christ's Church, Fairfield.

See Parish Records & book of Marriages & Births of Town Records.

David Burr son of Col. Andrew Burr & Eunice Osborn, daughter of Mr. Samuel Osborn were married Dec. 11. 1751. Their children were:

Walter born Dec. 25. 1752

Lucretia born March 10. 1754

Eunice, born Dec 29, 1755.

David born Aug 8. 1757.

Wm. born July 27. 1759

Ellen born Aug 12. 1761

Abigail born Sept 29. 1763

Sarah born April 21. 1766 & died June 2nd, 1787

Andrew born April 7. 1768

Col. David Burr died Dec 3. 1773.

Eunice Burr widow of Col. David Burr died Dec. 1st 1789.

Christ's Church Parish Records & Town Book of Marriages & Births.

### COL. DAVID DIMON

The following narrative was written by Ebenezer Dimon, son of Col. David Dimon, Jan. 13th, 1841.

#### FAIRFIELD.

Col. David Dimon of this town commenced his revolutionary services in 1774 by assisting in organizing and preparing his fellow citizens in the town for that event.

In the early part of 1775 he joined a corps of volunteers which took possession of a quantity of King's military stores in New York.

The States of Connecticut and New York having determined on raising forces for the invasion of Canada, my father received a commission of Captain in the corps raised for that object. I was with him from May till the end of August in their company near the City of New York, and did the duty of waiter to him and of bugleman to the company till the company broke up and the troops proceeded under the order of Gen. Montgomery on the Canadian expedition.

When the siege of St. Johns commenced my father was promoted to the rank of Brigade Major, and became one of Gen. Montgomery's Staff. He assisted in taking Fort Chamblee. A part of the select corps was led by Major Brown and the other part by him. At the surrender of St. Johns he was appointed to take possession of the Fort and receive the submission of the garrison.

He continued with Montgomery until he took possession of Montreal at which time circumstances required him to return to Connecticut.

In the campaign of 1776 he was promoted to the rank of Major in one of the Connecticut regiments raised for the defence of New York and I was with him during the whole of this discouraging campaign. In the winter of that year Congress passed an order for raising the regular army and he was again promoted to the rank of Lt.-Colonel in one of the Connecticut regiments. The chief Colonel (Douglass) soon after his appointment, was taken sick and died; and the duty of recruiting and preparing the regiment for actual service devolved on my father.

While this was in progress a detachment of the British Army under Gen. Tryon landed on the west side of this town on their expedition to destroy a large quantity of military stores at Danbury. As soon as the alarm had reached us here, my father assembled and put in motion such of the new recruits as had been enlisted in this part of the State, to harass the British on their march. In the battle of Ridgefield which took place in the same expedition, he acted under the immediate orders of Gen. Arnold. Directly after this event the regiment was filled up and prepared for actual service; and was posted on the line between this State and New York.

The duties at this post became very arduous, requiring constant vigilance and change of position to prevent surprise by the numerous forces of the British then in New York.

In a night movement in September the regiment became drenched in rain during nearly the whole night; and my father the next day was seized with a bilious fever, which proved fatal in the 36th year of his age.

At this time I was again with him.

About two years after this the house which he left was burnt by a detachment of the British Army, in the general conflagration of this village. This loss reduced his family nearly to a state of indigence, severely felt for ten years after.

EBENEZER DIMON.

Colonel David Dimon was the son of Ebenezer Dimon and Mary Burr.

He was born at Fairfield, Aug. 23, 1741, and died in the army Sept. 18, 1777.

When the militia of Conn. were organized by the Gen. Court in April, 1775, he was commissioned Capt. of the 4th Co. 5th Regt., which was the Fairfield Co. regiment. He was commissioned Major and afterwards Lieut.-Col. of one of the Connecticut Line Regts., which was raised under the authority of the Continental Congress, and constituted a part of the regular army of that time.

He left a widow and eight children, William Dimon, Ebenezer Dimon, Mrs. Gershom Bradley, Mrs. Benj. Osborne, Mrs. David Sturges, Mrs. Uriah Sturges, Mrs. Gould Hoyt, & Mrs. Miah Perry.

Ebenezer Dimon, son of Capt. Moses Dimon, was bapt. March 18, 1705. He m. about 1730 Mary, daught. of Col. John Burr & his wife Deborah Barlow. Their children were: Ebenezer bapt. Jan. 10, 1731; Abigail Feb. 1, 1732; Deborah April 27, 1735; Mary Jan. 26 1737; William June 24 1739; *David* Aug. 23 1741; Sarah Dec. 18. 1746. Ebenezer Dimon died May 28, 1746, in the 42d year of his age. He was a graduate of Yale College, & for many years sheriff of Fairfield County. His widow married Col. James Smedley Jan. 4, 1748, & died Sept. 12, 1760.

Col. Jonathan Dimon, s. of Moses Dimon Esqr & Hannah d. of Mr. Joseph Rowland, were m. Feb. 14, 1760. Jonathan, their son was bapt. in Christ's Church, Fairfield March 4. 1761. Register of Births, Marriages & Deaths, 1692-1855.

Thomas Burr Osborne, born July 8, 1798, in Weston, Conn. He was fitted for college at Staples' Academy in that town, and graduated at Yale College in 1817. He studied law under the instruction of Hon. Seth P. Staples, and was admitted to the bar at New Haven in 1820. In the same year he commenced the practice of law in Fairfield, Conn. He held the office of Clerk of the Superior and County Courts from 1826 to 1839, practicing law at the same time. In 1839 was elected a Representative in Congress, and was re-elected in 1841, and in 1844 was elected to the Senate of Connecticut, and the same year appointed Judge of Fairfield County Court, which office he held several years. In 1836 and in 1850 represented the town of Fairfield in the Legislature, and was one year Judge of Probate for Fairfield district. In 1854 he removed to New Haven, and

in 1855 was appointed Professor of Law in Yale College, which professorship he held until 1865, when he resigned. He married, September 6, 1826, Elizabeth Huntington, daughter of Ebenezer Dimon, of Fairfield, and died September 2, 1869, at New Haven. Their children were:

Arthur Dimon, born April 17, 1828, and married, August 2, 1858, Frances Louisa, daughter of Eli Whitney Blake.

Thomas Fitch, born January 31, and died June 20, 1830.

Mary Elizabeth, born October 11, 1833, and married June 30, 1856, Hon. Henry B. Harrison.

## DWIGHT

After the Revolution Fairfield county became distinguished throughout the country for its men of learning & talent. Among these were the celebrated Rev. Dr. Timothy Dwight of Greenfield Hill, whose widespread influence at that time & subsequently gives his name a fitting & honored place in these reminiscences. He was installed pastor of the Congregational Church in Greenfield on the 5. of Nov. 1783. His brilliant talents drew from the neighboring churches the frequent attendance of the lovers of religious eloquence. His home became the resort of learning, talents & refinement. His doors were ever open to welcome the stranger as well as the friend. Soon after he settled at Greenfield he established a school which became celebrated throughout the country. From all parts of the United States children were sent to this school. Among the most distinguished of his pupils were Henry Baldwin, afterwards "one of the Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, & Joel R. Poinsett of South Carolina, who became Secretary of War during the administration of President Van Buren."\* This school educated young ladies as well as gentlemen in a higher degree of culture than was usually given in those days.

Dr. Dwight wrote several poems, from one of which the following lines written on the beautiful view from Greenfield Hill are taken.

"Heavens, what matchless groups of beauties rare  
Southward expand! where crowned with yon tall oak  
Round hill, the circling land & sea o'erlooks;  
Or, smoothly sloping, Grover's beauteous rise  
Spreads its green sides, & lifts its single tree  
Glad mark for Seamen; or, with ruder face,  
Orchards, & fields, & groves, & houses rare,  
And scattered cedars, Mill-hill meets the eye;  
Or, where beyond, with every beauty clad,  
More distant heights in vernal pride ascend.  
On either side, a long, continued range  
In all the charms of rural nature dress'd  
Slopes gently to the main. Ere Tryon sunk  
To infamy unfathom'd, thro' yon grove  
Once glistened Norwalk's white ascending spires;  
And soon, if Heaven permit; shall shine again.  
Here, sky-encircled Stratford's churches beam;  
And Stratfield's turrets greet the roving eye.

\* See Rev. Henry B. Smith's One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary Address of the Greenfield Congregational Church.



In clear full view, with every varied charm  
 That formed the finished landscape, blending soft  
 In matchless union, Fairfield & Green's Farms  
 Give lustre to the day. Here crowded with pines  
 And skirting groves, with creek & havens fair  
 Embellished, fed with many a beauteous stream,  
 Prince of the waves, & Ocean's favorite child,  
 Far westward fading in confusion blue,  
 And eastward stretch'd beyond the human ken,  
 And mingled with the sky; there Longa's Sound  
 Glorious expands."

Beside the poems of Dr. Dwight he published a very interesting volume of travels.

Dr. Dwight graduated at Yale College in 1769, & became a teacher in the New Haven grammar school. He was appointed tutor of Yale College from 1771-1777. He became chaplain in the army of the Revolution from Sept. 4. 1777, until March 1779. Upon his father's death he took charge of his mother & her family at Northampton, until called to be pastor of the church at Greenfield Hill, Nov. 5. 1783.

On the 25. of June, 1795, he was elected President of Yale College, & on the 8. of Sep. 1795, he formally entered upon his duties. The College flourished under his influence, & became of wide world note. In 1798 he endowed a professorship in chemistry of which Professor Benjamin Silliman, at the age of twenty, was chosen professor. In 1810 he founded a medical school, which was sanctioned by the Legislature of the State; which in 1813 was completed with four professors. He made preparations for a theological professorship; but it was not fully carried out until after his death. New buildings were erected in which more commodious recitation rooms, & a larger chemical laboratory, & library rooms were added; towards all of which Dr. Dwight largely contributed from his private resources.

"He was an ardent lover of music; a poet of merit; a teacher of extraordinary ability, & one of the first preachers of his generation. He was the author of that beautiful hymn so often sung in our churches."

"I love thy kingdom Lord,  
 The house of thine abode,  
 The Church our Blest Redeemer saved  
 With his own precious blood."

His death was universally lamented throughout the country, for a great intellect such as but few men are fully endowed with, was his crowning glory.

President Timothy Dwight b. May 3. 1752 was the son of Timothy Dwight of Northampton, Mass. & Mary Edwards d. of Rev. Jonathan Edwards, Pastor of the church at Northampton, afterwards President of the College in New Jersey Nov. 8, 1750, who d. at Natchez June 10, 1772, aged 52; & his widow Mary Edwards d. at Northampton Feb. 28, 1807 aged 73.\* Their son President Timothy Dwight m. March 3. 1777, Mary d. Benjamin Woolsey Esqr. of Dorsons L. I. by whom he had 8 sons. He d. at New Haven Jan. 11. 1817, aged 64.

Timothy Dwight, a grandson of President Dwight, was b. at Norwich, Conn. Nov. 16. 1828; graduated at Yale College 1849; studied divinity at Yale 1851-1855, & at Bonn &

\* Genealogical Notes—Goodwin.

Berlin 1856-58, became professor of sacred literature & New Testament Greek in the Divinity School at Yale, in 1858; was appointed president of Yale College in 1886 (resigned 1899); & was a member of the New Testament Revision Company. He published, "The True Ideal of an American University" 1872 &c.\*

## ELIOT

The Rev. Andrew Eliot succeeded Rev. Noah Hobart of Christ's Church, & was ordained & installed 22. June 1774. He was a son of the Rev. Andrew Eliot, D.D., pastor of the North Church in Boston. He was b. in 1743; graduate of Harvard College in 1762. In 1768 he was chosen tutor at Harvard & in 1773 & fellow of the corporation, which office he resigned for Christ's Church, Fairfield.

The Rev. Mr. Eliot died on the 26. of September, 1805, in the 63d year of his age & the 32d of his ministry. He was buried in Burial Hill Cemetery. He m. July, 19. 1774, Mary d. of Hon. Joseph Pyncheon of Boston, Mass. She d. Dec. 10. 1810, & her remains rest beside those of her husband.

Their children were: Mary b. July 4. 1775; Elizabeth b. Oct. 29. 1776; Eunice Burr b. Aug. 16. 1778; Andrew b. Aug. 15. 1780; Sarah Nov. 2 1782; Ruth Martha July 25 1785; & Susanna Dec. 1 1790. *Fairfield Register of Births & Marriages & Deaths*—1692-1855.

Andrew Eliot became a minister, & settled over the Congregational Church of Milford, Conn. Eunice Burr m. Elijah Bibbins; Ruth m. Dr. William Nash of Bridgeport, Conn.; Elizabeth m. Brig.-Gen. Gershom Burr; Mary m. Capt. Andrew Joy; Susanna m. Rev. Nathaniel Hewit, D.D.

## FORGUE

Dr. Forgue married Sarah daughter of Mr. David Thompson, and widow of James Dennie. Their son Francis Forgue soon after the Revolution established the first printing press and newspaper in Fairfield, called the Fairfield or Independent Gazette—The Intelligencer.

Dr. Forgue became a highly respected physician and citizen of Fairfield. He died Feb. 26. 1783, in the 54th year of his age. His widow died Jan. 24. 1796, aged 72 years. Their tombstones are to be seen in the Burial Hill Cemetery.

## GOLD

Col. Abraham Gold b. 14. May, 1732, was a grandson of Lieut. Governor Nathan Gold, & son of Mr. Samuel Gold. He m. Elizabeth d. of Col. John Burr 1. Jan. 1754. Their children were Abigail b. 15. Nov. 1754; Hezekiah 9. Dec. 1756; Elizabeth bapt. 11. Feb. 1759; John Burr 12. April 1761; Deborah 31. July 1763; Abraham 9. March 1766; Ann 5. March 1769; Jason 24. Feb. 1771 & Daniel 25. Feb. 1776. Col. Abraham Gold d. at Ridgefield April 27. 1777, aged 44 years. On his tombstone beneath his name, are those of his sons "John Burr who died at sea June 2. 1781 aged 20 years; Hezekiah drowned at New York Oct. 30. 1789 aged 30 years, & Daniel drowned on the coast of France Dec. 28th, 1790, aged 20 years." . . . His widow Mrs. Elizabeth Burr Gold lies buried by the side of her lamented husband. She died 5. Sept. 1815, in the 84th year of her age.

\* The Century Dictionary and Encyclopedia.

## GOODSEL

The Rev. John Goodsel was born Dec 25. 1706; graduated at Yale College 1724, was ordained at the age of 21. He married Miss Mary Lewis of Stratford, July 20. 1725. She was born May 18, 1706. Their children were: Hannah b. Aug 9, 1726, & bapt. Aug 15, 1726.—Mary b. Nov. 29. 1727, bapt. Dec. 3. 1727.—John b. April 14. 1730, bapt. April 19. 1730.—Thomas b. Dec. 4. 1731, bapt. Dec 12. 1731.—Sarah b. May 4. 1735, bapt. Dec 12. 1735.—Epaphras b. Jan. 13. 1736, bapt. Jan. 18, 1736.—Abigail b. Jan. 8, 1738; bapt. Jan. 15. 1738.—Huldah b. April 4. 1740; bapt. April 16. 1740.—Epaphras 2d b. May 23. 1742; bapt. May 29. 1742.—Lewis & Phebe (twins), b. Oct. 23, 1744, bapt. Oct. 23, 1744.—Samuel b. June 19. 1746; bapt. June 29. 1746.—James b. July 19. 1748; bapt. in infancy.—James Goodsel 2d b. Aug. 24. 1749, bapt. Aug 27. 1749.—Epaphras 1. died Jan. 6. 1742. Phebe died Nov. 1744. James d. July 31, 1748.

Moses Wakeman & Mary Goodsel were married Aug. 21. 1744.

Elisha Alvord & Hannah Goodsel were married May 11. 1745.

John Goodsel & Sarah Bradley were married Jan. 18. 1749.

Archibald Blair & Abigail Goodsel were married Feb. 24. 1754.

Elnathan Bradley & Sarah Goodsel were married Oct 6. 1754.

Silas Hull & Huldah Goodsel were married Nov. 26. 1761.

Epaphras Goodsel & Jane Bradley were married Dec 5. 1765.

Samuel Goodsel & Phebe Davis were married Jan 23. 1766.

Lewis Goodsel & Eunice Wakeman March 2. 1767.

Children of John Goodsel jr. & Sarah Bradley: Sarah Goodsel b. Sep. 1749. bapt Oct 15. 1749—Mary Goodsel b. July 1751, bapt. July 21. 1751.

—Greenfield Hill Parish Records.

## HEWIT

The Rev. Nathaniel Hewit was the successor of the Rev. Dr. Humphry in the Congregational Church, Fairfield. He was born in New London, Conn., Aug. 28, 1788. In early boyhood he exhibited a fine & brilliant mind which in after years won for him a more than ordinary degree of celebrity. He was educated at Yale College at the time that Dr. Timothy Dwight was the President. He was ordained & installed pastor of the Presbyterian church in Plattsburg, N. Y., by the presbytery of Champlain July 5, 1815. In this charge he remained until Oct. 2. 1817. He was installed in Fairfield on the 14. of Jan. 1818. At that time the church was mainly supported by men of high standing in the legal profession, Fairfield not only being a business centre, but the county shire town, where judges & lawyers from all parts of the State assembled during the court seasons. Here on the Sabbath they listened to the learned & eloquent Dr. Hewit with profound attention, for they were not able then to reach their homes by steam as now a days. The eloquent warnings & denunciations of Dr. Hewit against intemperance & against moderate drinking as the cause of intemperance, in his own & other pulpits, soon made a profound impression on the public mind. The use of strong drink at that time was one of the conventional laws of social intercourse & hospitality. It was supposed to be absolutely necessary to health & ability to endure the fatigue of ordinary labor.

About this time the American Temperance Society was formed for the suppression of this growing evil. Dr. Hewit was called to be a leader in this work. During a period of five years he was most zealous in the cause, & visited numerous places in Connecticut,

Rhode Island, New York, & Pennsylvania organizing temperance societies. His success in this agency proved his ability for the work.

He was in consequence urged to resign his pastorate & give himself wholly to the temperance cause. Accordingly in Dec. of 1827 he resigned his charge at Fairfield to enter upon this work. The first sermon preached afterwards was in the present Brick Church of Dr. Spring in New York.

In Dec., 1830, he was installed pastor of the First Presbyterian Church at Bridgeport. The following May he made powerful addresses before the New York Temperance Society at their anniversary. John Tappan Esqr. of Boston offered to pay his expenses if he would visit England, & assist in a temperance reform in that country. He accepted the offer, & sailed for England on the 18. of May 1831. He arrived in London June 28; & on the 29. he attended a temperance meeting at Exeter Hall, where he made an able address. On the 19. of July he was present at the formation of the British & Foreign Temperance Society, & thus witnessed the great object of his foreign tour. He also visited Paris, returned to London, & then proceeded to Liverpool. He arrived home the 1st of Nov. after a stormy voyage of forty-two days. His ministry at Bridgeport continued to prosper, & for more than twenty years he preached to a large congregation. At the end of this time, a difference arising in regard to procuring an assistant to be associated with this venerable pastor, the difficulty was settled by a division of the congregation into two churches, the one retaining the old organization & calling a new minister, & the other forming a new organization & retaining their old pastor. Dr. Hewit was installed in the new church Oct. 31, 1853. He continued to fulfil the duties of his office until well advanced towards four score years, when his people, at his request, gave him an assistant, to whom he afterwards resigned his charge. Dr. Hewit left two sons the Rev. Dr. Augustus Hewit, who became one of the Paulist Fathers in the Roman Catholic Church in New York; & Dr. Henry Hewit, who also became a Romanist. He left one daughter who married Dr. Bowen of New Haven. Dr. Hewit was twice married—the first wife having been a daughter of the Rev. Andrew Eliot & the second wife a Miss Hillhouse of New Haven. He died at Bridgeport on the 6th of Feb. His funeral sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. Lyman H. Atwater of Fairfield. He was buried in the new cemetery at Bridgeport.

## HOBART

Rev. Noah Hobart was born in Hingham, Mass. Jan 12th 1706. He was the son of David & grand-son of Rev. Peter Hobart 1st Pastor of the church in Hingham. He married Ellen Sloss d. of John Sloss Sept 2nd 1735. His children were John Sloss Hobart b. May 6th 1738; Ellen b. Oct 15th 1741; Noah b. Jan 18th 1743; & died Sept 12th 1747.

John Sloss Hobart m. Mary Grinnell of New York.

Mrs. John Sloss Hobart d. August 1803. Judge John Sloss Hobart d. Feb. 4th 1805 & left no children. He was a distinguished jurist of New York City.

Ellen Hobart m. Dr. Nathaniel Lothrop of Plymouth, Mass., & d. in Plymouth July 1st 1780 leaving no children.

Mrs. Noah Hobart d. August 4th 1753.

Rev. Noah Hobart next m. in 1757 Mrs. Priscilla Lathrop of Plymouth, Mass., who survived him.

Rev. Noah Hobart d. Dec 6th 1773, & was buried in the Burial Hill Cemetery, where a stone of white marble marks his grave.



## HULL

The name of Dr. David Hull also is one of affectionate remembrance to the inhabitants of Fairfield, among whom he was the leading physician for many years. "Dr. Hull was the son of Joseph Hull of Derby & was born 1764. He graduated at Yale College, & studied medicine under Dr. William Eustice of Boston. He married a daughter of the Rev. Dr. Andrew Eliot of Boston Nov. 10. 1789, & settled at Fairfield where he died in 1834, aged 70." Dr. Hull was a brother of Gov. William Hull of Massachusetts, & Uncle to Commodore Isaac Hull of the United States Frigate "Constitution." A daughter of Dr. Hull, Miss Eliza Hull, resided in the new house on the corner of the green, the memorable home before the Revolution of her Uncle the Rev. Andrew Eliot.

## HUMPHRY

The Rev. Herman Humphry was elected the successor of Mr. Eliot. He was ordained April 16, 1807, & was settled at Fairfield on a salary of six hundred dollars a year. He was the first pastor of this church who did not remain in his office during his ministry. On the 15. of May, 1817, after having been pastor of the society for ten years, he resigned the parish & was settled as pastor of the first church in Pittsfield, Mass. Not long after this he became President of Amherst College, an office which he filled with distinguished success. Dr. Humphry died in Pittsfield in 1861. He left several children who occupied positions of honor & influence. He was succeeded by the Rev. Nathaniel Hewit, D.D.

## LAMSON

The Rev. Joseph Lamson of Stratford succeeded the Rev. Mr. Caner in 1747. He had been educated at Yale College, & was a convert from the Congregational church. He went to England for Episcopal ordination, & upon his return first preached at Bedford & New Castle in the province of New York, & also at Ridgefield in Connecticut. The parish of Norfield, now called Weston & Easton, had by this time erected a church of its own. The parish at Stratfield also had erected a church upon the Plain of Pequonnuc a short distance east of the grove near the new cemetery, the number of families by this time having increased to about twenty-five. By these changes the parish of Fairfield was reduced in limits to the villages of Greens Farms, Greenfield, & Southport, or Mill River. The parishes of Stratfield & Norfield, however, continued under the care of the Rev. Mr. Lamson who preached once a month at Stratfield, & at Norfield, giving them besides as much of his time as his parish at Fairfield would allow. He was an able & accomplished scholar, a devoted and enthusiastic churchman, greatly beloved among his people. He had studied medicine & made his early profession as a physician contribute toward his support.

The Rev. Joseph Lamson m. Alethea d. of Rev. James Wetmore of Rye, N. Y., July 26. 1747. Their children were Anna b. May 18. 1748 & d. July 10, 1753; Alethea b. Oct. 27. 1749; Esther b. Feb. 25. 1751; William Oct. — 1752; Anna b. Jan. 28. 1754; Elizabeth b. May 5. 1756.—*Fairfield Book of Births, Marriages & Deaths.*

The Rev. Mr. Lamson d. Aug. 12. 1773; & is believed to have been buried in Burial Hill Cemetery where Mrs. Lamson was buried, & who d. Feb. 8. 1766 aged 44 years. Their eldest d. Anna was also buried in this cemetery by the side of her mother; but

there is nothing to mark Mr. Lamson's grave.—*Mrs. B. Perry's Old Burying Ground of Fairfield.*

The Rev. Joseph Lamson appears to have m. again, as in his will dated June 1. 1773, he mentions wife Mary, to whom he gives £10 & all the household furniture she brought with her. He mentions Esther w. of Stephen Hoyt; Anna wife of Samuel Belden, sons William & John; & d—'s Elizabeth & Alethea.

#### LABORIE

Dr. James Laborie of Stratford purchased of Isaac Jennings of Fairfield May 14. 1718, one & one quarter acres of land near the rocks, with a stone house an orchard & fences; "bounded on all sides with the commons." *Fairfield Town Records Vol. 3. p. 302.* Before removing to Fairfield he had married Mary, the daughter of Nathaniel Burr, the youngest son of John Burr Sr. In his will dated March 17. 1731, he gives to his son James all his surgical instruments & all his French writings. To his son John, "if he comes again," he gave five shillings; to his daughter Anna six shillings; to his daughter Jeanne five pounds; to his daughter Mary ten pounds; to his grandson John Laborie his gun. His movable estate he gave to his widow Mary, & the use of his real estate; & at her death the use of it to his son James until he became of age, when he was to receive it. Dr. Laborie died at Fairfield. *Fairfield Town & Probate Records.*

Dr. James Laborie, son of the above Dr. James Laborie married Deborah (probably Lewis) & resided at Stratford where he practiced medicine. He died & was buried at Stratford in the year 1773. His widow received "one third of his real estate at Stratford & in Ripton Parish, bounded westerly by her own land." John Cable of Greens Farms m. Ann Laborie of Stratford May 3. 1756.

#### McKENSEY

Dougal McKensey, after whom Kensey's Point was named, married Sarah Wakeman widow of Samuel Wakeman 2. & daughter of Joshua Knowles of Fairfield, Nov. 18. 1696. Their children were Abigail b. Aug. 4. 1700 & died; John b. Oct. 18. 1701; Daniel April 30. 1703; Ann Feb. 7. 1705; Elizabeth b. 29. Sept. 1706; Mary b. Oct. 10. 1708 & Samuel Oct. 8. 1710. His daughter Sarah m. David Thompson; Ann married the Rev. Henry Caner, & Elizabeth m. ——— Bostwick.

Upon the marriage of his daughter Ann to the Rev. Henry Caner, he gave half an acre of land to Henry Caner in his home lot. This lot is opposite the present post-office at Fairfield.

Upon his death Dougal McKensey willed to Trinity Church one hundred pounds in real estate in Fairfield, "to be used for the support of the church," as the Rector & vestry should deem most proper"; & that all his real estate should be taxed according to his just proportion, for the support of the minister of Trinity Church.

Fairfield Parish & Town & Probate Records.

#### NOUGEIERE

Anthony Nougere, who was probably a Frenchman, is represented by a notary of London, England, 11 July, 1694, "although born beyond the seas," to be a legal resident

of England with all the rights of native born subjects of that Kingdom. Upon his taking up his residence in Fairfield, he presented his English papers of naturalization before Judge Nathan Gold April 17th 1705. He purchased in Fairfield housing & land of Robert Lord valued at £45 in silver money, & other lands in 1703 & 1705. He died 23rd Oct. 1740. In his will dated Oct. 7th 1740, he mentions wife Sarah, to whom he left the use of all his estate personal & real, & the services of his negro woman Elizabeth during her life, if she remained faithful to his wife, otherwise she should be sold after his death. After the decease of his wife he left the use of £150, to the Rector & Tutors of Yale College & their successors forever; to Rev. Noah Hobart & to his successors in the ministry of the same persuasion £200; to the public school near the meeting-house, towards the support of the master of said school & his successors, £150; to his beloved friend Capt. Thomas Hill & his heirs, his homestead in Fairfield, buildings & land adjoining; to the French Church in Boston, Mass. £100; to the poor of the town of Fairfield the annual use & profit of £150 forever; to his servant girl Ann her freedom at the age of eighteen & £150; to his loving cousin Auranth of New Port R. I. the remainder of his estate. He made Major Andrew Burr & Capt. Thomas Hill his executors.\*

His widow died in 1743. In her will she leaves to her beloved son Andrew Wheeler £150 bills of credit old currency.

To her well beloved son Benjamin Fairweather she willed a dwelling house, barn & thirteen acres at Stratfield.

To the children of Katherine (the late wife of Peter Hubbell of Newton, deceased) she gave £20 in old bills of credit to each upon their arriving at age.

To her well beloved daughter Mary, the wife of John Holberton, a parcel of land at Rosster of about nine acres, her best bed, bedstead, iron curtain-rods, green rug, quilt & furniture of s'd bed, chest of drawers, oval & tea table; largest & smallest silver cups, & silver porringer.

To her daughter Abiah, the wife of John Cornwall, £200 in bills of credit old currency, her gold necklace & one silver cup.

To her two daughters Penelope the wife of Richard Hubbell, & Sarah the wife of Daniel Morrisse she willed each a silver cup.

To her granddaughter Hannah, the daughter of her son Joseph Fairweather deceased, she gave £20 equivalent to bills of old currency.

To her children John, Thomas, Penelope, Sarah & Mary the remainder of her estate to be equally divided between them.

To her son John, Penelope & Sarah she willed land at Tashua. To Penelope she willed three acres of land at Stratfield purchased of Ephraim Hubbell & lying between her brush and Richard Hubbell's & the land of Temperance Hubbell.

Lt. David Sherman junr. of Stratfield was appointed her sole executor.†

## No. 8

### ROWLAND

Mr. David Rowland, son of Samuel Rowland, first married Mrs. Deborah Sloss Dec. 1. 1745. Their children were:

Esther b. Sept 17. 1746 & d. Sept 25. 1748.

Deborah wife to David Rowland died Sept. 29, 1748, in the 36th year of her age.

David Rowland married Elizabeth Hill daughter of Capt. Thomas Hill Feb. 14, 1750.

\* Fairfield Probate Records.

† Fairfield Probate Records.

Their children were

Esther b. Oct. 29, 1751.

Mrs. Elizabeth Rowland died July 18, 1753.

This only surviving child Esther married Captain Samuel Smedley.—Register of Births, Marriages & Deaths—Fairfield Town Records.\*

A member of the Rowland family of London informed the author of this history that the Rowlands were of Welsh extraction, & that the name of Henry Rowland came from a marriage between a Rowland & Mathew Henry of Broad Oak, Flintshire, Wales, whose chief work is the Exposition of the Old & New Testament, 1708-10.

## SHELTON

After the burning of Trinity Church, Fairfield, by the British, the services of the Church of England were held at the house of Abraham Bulkley Esqr. opposite the Meeting-house Green, & at John Sherwood's at Greenfield Hill & Hezekiah Sturges' at Mill Plain. At a meeting of the wardens & vestry of the church Sept. 1779, at the residence of Mr. John Sherwood of Greenfield Hill, a committee was appointed to hire Mr. Philo Shelton as a lay reader, in which office he continued until his ordination. He was one of four young men first ordained in the United States by Bishop Seabury at Middletown, Conn. Aug. 3. 1785, Bishop Seabury having been the first American bishop, consecrated to that office in Scotland Nov. 4. 1784. From this time he took full charge of Trinity Church & the missionary labors with which it was connected.

Dr. Shelton had not only the honor but pleasure of introducing the first Book of Common Prayer, after it had been revised from that of the Church of England by the Convention of the Episcopal Church held in Philadelphia Oct. 16. 1786.

Dr. Shelton's mission field extended to Greenfield Hill, North Fairfield, now Easton & Weston, & Stratfield. Owing to the crippled condition of the Episcopalians, the new church built upon the military parade ground at Mill Plain was not completed until 1792, when to the great joy of the good churchmen at Fairfield a beautiful church at last greeted their longing eyes, to which, on horseback and on foot, many gladly attended. The children of Israel were not more rejoiced when the new temple was rebuilt after the first was destroyed, than these God-loving & God-fearing people.

This new church on Mill Plain was large & commodious. The reading desk was built according to the English fashion in front of the pulpit, the latter rising some six feet immediately in the rear above it. Both were elegantly decorated with crimson satin damask coverings, with cushions of the same, ornamented with large tassels, upon which the Bible, the Prayer Book & the clergyman's sermon, covered with black velvet, rested. Heavy bullion fringe of crimson silk ran around the pulpit and reading desk. Under the desk stood an altar of solid mahogany upon which to lay their alms & oblations before their Heavenly Father, in whose Holy Temple they had just cause to build an altar before & upon which, as in the Levitical days, they offered up praises & prayers & thanksgivings. Behind the pulpit hung an elegant crimson silk-velvet curtain.

The following is a copy of a letter written by the Rev. Dr. Philo Shelton to Mr. William Winthrop of Cambridge, Mass.:

“Bridgeport, Sept. 28. 1808

“Dear Sir,

“I received at the hands of Capt. Fairweather the curtain presented by you to the good people of Fairfield under my Episcopal charge, for the benefit & ornamentation of

\* Hist. Fairfield. Vol. I., p. 403.



the Pulpit Window. I immediately carried it to Fairfield, & caused it to be put in its place, which much becomes the little Church, which is poor in temporal adornment, & gratefully receives any oblation charitable persons feel disposed of bestowing; & in the name of the Vestry & in their behalf, I present you their grateful acknowledgment, & sincere wishes for your health & prosperity, hoping in some future peregrination you may have the pleasure of seeing it hang in the place you designed it for; & may the best of blessings descend upon the head of those who feel a disposition to adorn the Church of God with decent attire, that all may worship God in the beauty of holiness, & our hearts be impressed with suitable respect when we approach his presence in his house. With all due respect & esteem, I subscribe myself, your most obedient humble servant.

PHILO SHELTON.

"To Mr. William Winthrop."

A commodious rectory was also built for the use of the Rector; & altogether the Episcopalians were perhaps more prosperous than ever before.

The Rev. Dr. Shelton was a man of marked ability. He was as brave as a lion in the maintenance of his clerical duties, from which he never shrank for an instant, however great the impediments thrust in his way. In his disposition he was the soul of nobility of thought & action, & his heart was as tender as that of a child. He was loved & venerated by all his parishioners, for he was a tower of strength within himself to them & to the church. It may be truly said of him that the spirit of God was with him. He was among the leading churchmen of his day, for years a member of the Standing Committee of the Diocese, an active & zealous member of the General Conventions of the Episcopal Church throughout the United States. Few men were ever more beloved, & none more mourned than this venerable father of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut. He passed from the Church Militant to the Church Triumphant on the 27. of Feb. 1825.

"From his youth he was deeply impressed with the importance of embracing the christian religion. Viewing this life as the commencement of man's existence, & the only time allotted to him, in which he may prepare for enjoying an eternity of happiness, the proper improvement of the present time, to the future welfare of the soul, became to him the subject of the deepest interest. Under these impressions he embraced christianity in early life & came to the Holy Communion as an instituted means of grace. Finding by sweet experience that the path of virtue & religion was the path of peace, he became anxious that others should participate with him in the cheering prospects of a glorious immortality. This excited his desire to become a dispenser of those doctrines and sacraments which were the source of his own consolation & hope."

Before his death he had the satisfaction of seeing the churches in North Fairfield & Bridgeport in vigorous growth, so much so that in the thriving borough of Bridgeport; the location of the first church near the cemetery was found to be too small, which made it expedient to erect a new one among the more thickly settled parts of the population. In this work, which commenced in 1801, Dr. Shelton assisted his people not only by his counsel, but by liberal contributions. As age crept upon him the gigantic labors of his youth were laid upon younger men; & he confined his last days to his beloved parishes in Bridgeport & Fairfield.

In the church at Mill Plain was placed a marble slab bearing the testimony of his useful life in the church.

The Rev. Dr. Philo Shelton was born at Huntington, Conn., May 5. 1754, & was the son of Samuel Shelton of Huntington, who m. Abigail daught. of Philo & Mehitable Nichols. He graduated at Yale College in 1775. He was for forty years Rector of St.

John's Church Bridgeport & of Trinity Church Fairfield. He d. 27. Feb. 1825 & was buried under the chancel of the church at Mill Plain. He m. Lucy d. of Philip & Mary Prince of Stratford, Conn. Their children were: Lucy b. 27. June 1782; Joseph Prince b. 18. May 1784; Maria b. 4. Jan. 1787; Philo Nichols b. 8. Feb. 1790; Henrietta b. 16. Jan. 1792; Henry b. 31. Jan. 1795; William b. 14. Sept. 1798; George Augustus b. 25. Nov. 1800; Margaret b. 26. Aug. 1803.

Mrs. Philo Shelton d. in 1838 in the seventy-eighth year of her age, having outlived her husband thirteen years. Her funeral was attended by the late lamented Rev. Dr. Gurdon Coit, who for many years was rector of St. John's Church Bridgeport. The late Rev. Dr. Samuel Jarvis in writing of her said: "Husband & wife were so blended together that they seemed to have but one will & one heart. His God was her God; his Redeemer her Redeemer; his church her church; his people her people."

Joseph Prince Shelton m. Henrietta Hoyt; Maria Shelton m. Jeremiah Sturges of Southport, Conn.; Philo Nichols Shelton m. Sarah Allycock; Henry Shelton m. Mary Ann Tweedy; George Augustus m. Fanny Bartow; Lucy & Henrietta remained single.

William son of Rev. Philo Shelton m. Lucretia Stanly Grosvenor late in life. He graduated at the General Theological Seminary N. Y. in 1823, & was Presbyter by the same in 1825 in the Episcopal Church at Mill Plain. During his ministry the services of the Episcopal Church were begun in the Academy in 1828 at Southport. Dr. Shelton removed from Fairfield to Buffalo in Aug. 1829, where, under his prosperous ministry, his devoted parishioners erected one of the finest cathedrals in the United States; & where in 1879 they celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his valued ministry among them. As he advanced in years he paid an annual visit to his father's homestead in Bridgeport, which he called his "earthly paradise"; & in which home he died well advanced in years Oct. 11, 1883. He was buried in Mountain Grove Cemetery, Bridgeport.

It is a fact to be remarked here, that this able clergyman before he left for Buffalo had the satisfaction of seeing the Episcopal churches of Norfield, Bridgeport & Fairfield in a flourishing condition. There were also thriving churches at Westport, Norwalk, Bridgefield & Wilton.

A handsome monument was erected to the memory of the Rev. Philo Shelton & his wife in the new & beautiful Mountain Grove Cemetery at Bridgeport when his remains were removed from under the chancel of the Mill Plain church. His daughters Lucy & Henrietta are also buried near their parents.

## SHERMAN

Another gentleman distinguished for his fine mental qualities was Judge Roger Minot Sherman, whose honored name also calls for a place in these reminiscences. Judge Sherman, the son of the Rev. Josiah Sherman, was born at Woburn, Mass., May 22. 1773. He was a brother of the Hon. Roger Sherman, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. He was a graduate of Yale College. He studied law under the Hon. Oliver Ellsworth, & the Hon. Simon Baldwin. He became a tutor in Yale College in 1795. In 1796 he was admitted to the bar in New Haven, & commenced the practice of law at Norwalk. On the 13. of Dec. 1796 he married Miss Elizabeth Gould, a daughter of Dr. William Gould of New Haven, & sister of the late Judge Gould of Litchfield. In 1807 he settled in Fairfield. As a lawyer he stood among the first in mental strength & legal power. He became a member of the Upper House of the Legislature in 1814, but mainly confined himself to his profession. In 1839 he was chosen Judge of the

Superior Court, & Associate Judge of the Supreme Court, which offices he filled with great honor to himself & to his State, until May 1842 when from his declining health he was led to seek the repose of private life. His clear vigorous mind retained its elasticity until the last. After a brief illness he died on Dec. 30. 1844 aged seventy-one years & seven months.

Judge Sherman had two sons William Gould & James Minot born Oct. 18. 1799, and both died young.

—Hall's *Hist. Norwalk*, p. 239.

Judge Sherman willed his fine residence with no less than sixty closets at Fairfield to be used as a parsonage for the minister of Christ's Church (Congregational).

## SILLIMAN

Silliman—Mr. Ebenezer Silliman & Miss Abigail Selleck, daughter of Jonathan Selleck Esqr., were married Oct 8th 1728.

Their children were:

Gold Selleck born May 7. 1732.

Ebenezer born June 21, 1734.

Amelia born Oct. 30. 1736.

Hezekiah born March 11. 1738-9.

Jonathan born Aug 31. 1742.

Abigail born Oct. 28. 1745.

Deodate born Dec. 13. 1749.

Judge Ebenezer Silliman resided at Holland Heights, & he inherited a large estate from his father Robert Silliman. His long & useful life made him greatly honored & respected throughout the entire colony. He died on the 11. of October 1775 in the 68th year of his age. A handsome tomb-stone now marks the place of his burial in the Burial Hill Cemetery at Fairfield.

Mrs. Abigail Silliman died March 16, 1772 aged 65 years. Her grave by the side of her husband's, is marked by a fine stone to her memory.

## SMEDLEY

Baptist Smedley was in Concord 1639, & made freeman 1644. His children were Samuel b. 1646, Mary & James. He d. Aug. 1675, aged 68 years. His d. Mary m. Dec 10. 1667, Isaac Shepherd. Son Samuel was killed by Indians 2. Aug. at Quaboag. John Smedley 1 of Concord probably brother of the above was a freeman in 1644. His children were John & probably others.

John Smedley 2, son of John 1 of Concord was a freeman 1667. He m. Sarah d. of Thomas Wheeler in 1669.

Samuel of Fairfield 1690 may have been s. of the 1st John—*Savage's Gen. Dic.*

Col. James Smedley of Fairfield m. Jane Sturges Oct 20. 1731. Their children were James b. 25. June 1732, & d. 6 July 1736, John b. 11 Nov 1734 & d. 10 June 1786—Abigail b. 28 May 1737; James 4 July 1739 & d. 25 July 1755.—Mrs. Jane Smedley d. 21 Sept. 1747. Col. James Smedley again m. Mary the widow of Ebenezer Dimon & d. of Col. John Burr 4 Jan. 1748. Their children were Samuel b. 5 March 1753. Col. James Smedley d. 4 Nov. 1771 aged 67 years. He was a brave & prominent military officer for many years. Col.

James Smedley, Mrs. Jane Smedley & Mrs. Mary Smedley with his son James rest in the Fairfield Burial Hill Cemetery.

Capt. Samuel Smedley s. of Col. James Smedley & Esther Rowland, d. of David Rowland Esqr were m. 9 April 1771.

—Fairfield Record, Births & Marriages.

Their children were Esther bapt. 5 Nov. 1771 & Elizabeth bapt. 10 Aug. 1771. Fairfield Parish Record. Captain Smedley was an active & brave naval officer during the War of the Revolution.

## TENNANT

The Rev. William Mackey Tennant succeeded the Rev. Seth Pomeroy at Greenfield, & was ordained minister of that parish June 17. 1772. He was a son of Rev. Charles Tennant of White Clay Creek, Delaware, who was a brother of the more famous preachers, Revs. William & Gilbert Tennant. He m. ——— d. of Rev. Dr. John Rogers of New York City. Mr. Tennant was a patriotic, helpful & sympathetic pastor to his parishioners & to the soldiers during the Revolution. He left Greenfield for the parish of Abington, Pa., where he died in 1810.

## POMEROY

The Rev. Seth Pomeroy of Northampton, Mass. was called to succeed the Rev. John Goodsel of Greenfield. He was b. Dec. 14, 1732; graduated at Yale College 1753, " & remained one year after he graduated in N. H. as a Berkeley scholar, a favor granted on account of his superior scholarship. He became a tutor of Yale in 1756 & 57." He m. ——— d. of Governor Jonathan Laws. They had one son Jonathan Laws Pomeroy, who settled at Worthington, Mass. The Rev. Seth Pomeroy d. in 1770 at the age of 37, & was buried in the cemetery of Greenfield Hill.

## REID

Mrs. Samuel Reid's name has already been mentioned in the Jennings' Gen. Rec. of Vol. 1st, but here it deserves further notice. Mrs. Reid was early distinguished for beauty & talent, & when her husband's glory made her house the centre of much literary & patriotic attention, her clear intellect, & domestic virtues shed a charm & a grace worthy alike of her enviable position & that of her visitors, among whom were some of the most distinguished persons of that day including Gov. Clinton, Gov. Tompkins, Daniel Webster, Henry Clay, Dr. Sam. Mitchel, Judge Johnson of the Supreme Court, with the Enmetts, MacNevens & Dr. Francis. In her devotion to her children & in her patriotism Mrs. Reid was alike worthy of her husband & her father.

In 1818 with the assistance of some young ladies she made the first flag of the Union, adopted by the Congress of the United States in that year, & which was the design of Capt. Reid.

On the admission of Indiana into the Union in 1816 the late Hon. P. H. Wendover of New York suggested to Congress the expediency of altering the flag. Capt. Reid undertook it, & on the 4. of April 1818 a bill was passed, to establish this as the flag of the United States. The following letter chronicles the date of its hoisting, and makes honorable mention of the deceased lady:



"Washington, Dec. 13. 1818.

"Dear Sir:

"I have just time to inform you that the new flag of Congress Hall arrived here per mail Tuesday, & was hoisted to replace the old one at two o'clock, & has given much satisfaction to all that have seen it, as far as I have heard.

"I am pleased with its form, & have no doubt it will satisfy the public mind. Mr. Clay, who was then the speaker, says it is wrong that there should be no charge in your bill for making the flag. If pay for that will be accepted on being informed I will procure it.

"Do not understand me as intending to wound the feelings of Mrs. Reid, nor others who may have given aid in the business, & please present my thanks to her & them, & accept the same for yourself.

"In haste yours, with esteem,

"P. H. WENDOVER."

Mrs. Reid's name & those of the young ladies who assisted her were worked in one corner of this flag.

### RIPLEY

The family of Ripley came to America from Hingham, England, & settled in Hingham, Mass., as early as 1642.

The Rev. Dr. Hezekiah Ripley was b. at Windham, Conn. 3. Feb 1743. He was a descendant of Lieut. Governor Brandford whose daughter married a Ripley, the ancestor of Dr. Ripley. He graduated at Yale College in 1763. He studied Divinity & became pastor of the Congregational Church at Green's Farms, Feb. 11. 1767. During the Revolution he was a Chaplain in the Continental Army at Green's Farms, which so largely contributed men for the struggle for independence. In 1790 he was chosen a member of the Corporation of Yale College. He became a devoted friend of Dr. Dwight's, & both of these friends died the same year. In 1803 the degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon him by the College of Nassau Hall. He was a man of great honesty & purity & strength of character. He was benevolent, forgiving & full of charity for the faults of others. He was an ardent supporter of the cause of the Revolution, & in consequence his house at Greens Farms with its furniture, & a part of his library were burned by the British in 1779.

The Rev. Dr. Ripley was pastor of the Church at Greens Farms for over fifty-four years. He resigned his office as pastor in 1821, the infirmities of age having now prevented him from further duties. In August of 1831 his beloved & devoted wife died, with whom he had lived over sixty-six years. He soon followed her, having died 29. Nov. 1831, in the 89th year of his age.

Dr. Ripley m. Jan. 9. 1765 Dorothy Brintnall of New Haven. Their children were: Alathea b. Nov. 11, 1766, m. Seth Bartlett of Lebanon, Goshen, Conn., & d. Jan. 13, 1859; William Brintnall b. Aug. 3. 1768; graduated at Yale College in 1786, & became minister of the parish of Goshen in Lebanon, Conn., was chosen a fellow of Yale College in 1817; & d. July 22, 1822; Hezekiah Augustus b. May 27, 1770, d. 30 April 1849; David Bradford b. 9. March 1775, d. Oct. 7, 1776; David b. 20 March 1780, d. Oct. 1863.

The record of the Rev. Dr. Ripley's appointment as a chaplain in the Continental Army cannot be found; but it was the custom in the Fairfield parishes for the ministers of the churches to serve as chaplains to the companies preparing for service in the army. It has been related that the Rev. Mr. Ross of the Stratfield Congregational Church, made it his duty to call the train-bands of his parish, who might be summoned at any moment

to active service, into his parsonage grounds, & exhort & pray with them, commending those who left home to join the main army to the care of their Heavenly Father; & sending them forth with his blessing.

### STURGES

In Vol. 1. of The Hist. of Fairfield p. 413 the author misguided by a well-intentioned friend, stated that Judge Jonathan Sturges of Fairfield was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. This was a grave mistake. Judge Jonathan Sturges was a lawyer by profession & one of the leading men of Fairfield in his day, & one of the most patriotic citizens of the town. He was a delegate from Fairfield with the Hon. Thaddeus Burr to the Connecticut State Convention, which ratified the Constitution of the United States, at Hartford on the first Thursday of January, 1788. He was also made Judge of the Supreme Court of Connecticut, besides occupying many offices of trust & importance. He married Oct. 26. 1760, Deborah the youngest daughter of Lothrop Lewis & Sarah widow of Ebenezer Wakeman. Their children were: Sarah bapt. March 15, 1761, Lewis Burr March 20, 1763; Anna, April 14. 1765; Jonathan Sept. 13. 1767; Barnabas, Sept. 10. 1769; Deborah Sept. 22. 1771; Josiah, Sept. 19. 1773; Oliver, Oct. 29. 1775; Oliver Dec. 14. 1777; Elizabeth, Feb. 13. 1780; Lucretia Nov. 11. 1781; Priscilla, 27. July 1783. Fairfield Parish Records. Barnabas Sturges was the father of the late Jonathan Sturges of Mill Plain.

Judge Jonathan Sturges was b. Aug. 23. 1740 & d. Oct 4. 1819. Upon his handsome tombstone in Burial Hill Cemetery is engraved the following: "He sustained with high reputation a number of most important offices—& was an efficient member of Congress under the Confederation, which vindicated the right & obtained the Independence of the United States." His widow Mrs. Deborah Sturges d. April 1. 1832 in the 90th year of her age, & lies buried by the side of her husband.

### SHEFFIELD

New Haven, Feb. 9. 1880.

Dear Madame,

The day after I wrote you & sent you a copy of Barnard's July number of the Education work, I sat down & tried to catch the "threads of memory" about my early days in Mill-river & Fairfield, as you have requested me to do. But alas, I left home a mere boy of fourteen, & returned only at less than nineteen, I can't think of any event worth mentioning: yet I have a lively recollection of the excitement when the war of 1812 was declared; & of my dear mother's alarm & anxiety, having been one of the sufferers of alarm & privation in the War of the Revolution; & I well remember how willingly she "stitched & stitched" on my *regimentals*, & how pleased she looked upon her "Soldier boy" with the "old gun," marching away every afternoon for *drill*! And with these revivals of memory, I took my pen & scribbled off the inclosed; & now intended only for your father,\* who I think was not old enough to *join*, or may not have been a resident. But he may have & probably did become a member afterwards; if so, it may serve to revive his pleasant recollections of the *Sea Fencibles*, & of its members, probably all gone home; & he & I must soon follow.

Kind regards to your father. I am dear Madame,

Very respectfully & truly yours,

JOSEPH E. SHEFFIELD.

\* Jonathan Godfrey joined the coast guard of Green's Farms when twelve years of age.—Author.

New Haven, Feb. 10. 1880.

Mrs. E. H. Schenck,

Dear Madame,

To-day I have received yours of yesterday, & am glad to learn that you intend to go on with your history & publish it in book form. I don't remember what I wrote you to encourage you in your work, but I do remember what was passing in my mind, viz: that it was the bounden duty of somebody to rescue from the musty archives of the different towns of our State such important or interesting facts of their early settlement & history as should be preserved to the present & future generations, before they should be destroyed by age, accident or design; & in these thoughts I had in mind the great value & importance of the indefatigable labors of the Rev. Doctor Beardsley in searching out & publishing the "History of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut," a work that should be in the hands of every church family in the Diocese, & be carefully read by its members. But for such a publication the "early history" would gradually be lost; & but for some industrious & capable person, like yourself, the early history of "old Fairfield" would pass into oblivion—and you have my authority to add my name to the application to publish in taking a dozen copies of our history without delay. . . . Hoping you will persevere in your work & be successful in receiving the approbation & reward of your townsmen & the public generally,

I am dear Madame, yours very truly,

JOSEPH EARL SHEFFFIELD.

Recollections January 27. 1880, of an original member, now nearly 87 years old, of the Mill River Sea Fencibles.

I was at home on a visit when the war was declared June 18th 1812. The elderly people, especially the women, with a full recollection of the scenes of plunder and burning & distress of the War of the Revolution were greatly agitated. In a few days there was an informal meeting of some of the older men at Pikes Tavern, at which Captain Eleazer Bulkley was chairman. Short & pithy speeches were made; & like most *vain-glorious young* fellows of 19, I must needs say something; what I *did* say I don't remember; but I well remember, for I was very proud of it, to hear the venerable chairman's remarks: "That's the sort of talk I like to hear, for in this war *young men* meant, arms, forward!" It was agreed to form a company for defence without delay. The meeting was adjourned to next day under the willow tree in front of the tavern at 4 o'clock. A goodly number assembled, perhaps twenty to thirty. Jeremiah Sturges addressed the crowd in a few patriotic words; & he was immediately elected Captain; Joab Squire, a man of few words, but of most heroic courage, was elected first lieutenant; Mr. Jonathan Bulkley second lieutenant, &c.; a flag was procured from one of the sloops; & a drummer & fifer from Greenfield or Mill plain. Some volunteers came in from Mill-plain, Hull's Farms, & Green's Farms; & as the coasting vessels came home "*to be laid up*," captains, mates & sailors enrolled themselves; & the company numbered 50 or 60, perhaps more. An agent was sent to New York to buy muskets, flints, powder &c, & materials for our uniforms, which were white trousers, an Indian hunting shirt or coat of blue nankeen or blue flannel, trimmed with a wide white fringe around the bottom, & cuffs, & I think a white star on the breast; a cap with white cockade & white feather tipped with red. As soon as the goods arrived, every lady in the village went promptly to work to ornament her soldier husband or brother. We met *every day* at 4 o'clock, under the willow tree for *drill*, which was *severe*; & in a very short time Captain Sturges was very proud of his company.

At that time there were about a dozen stores in the place—let me see—Lothrop Sturges, Jeremiah Sturges, Nehemiah Perry, Joseph Wakeman, ——— Robbins, Walter Thorp, Eleazer Bulkley, Walter Perry, William Bulkley, Joseph Perry, & I think one up at Burr's Mills—all those, except that of Mr. Joseph Perry, were situated on the wharf fronting the harbor, & were an inviting prey for the expected British marauding boats to plunder & burn: hence such a prompt gathering for defence. A redoubt was thrown up at the "*Lower-Wharf*," & an old ninety-nine pounder was planted there & later in the summer regular "night guard" was kept up.

There was a general training up on the Fairfield Green; & well do I remember the proud & martial appearance of our Captain, when he led his well disciplined, well drilled & *handsomely uniformed* "Sea Fencibles" into the parade, & took position as directed by the officer of the day. We were "the observed of all observers," our *unique* uniform at once attracted universal attention, comment & praise.

And when, after a hard day's marching & counter-marching the troops were formed into a hollow square & dismissed, & Col. Burr made the remark: "*That company, 'Mill River Sea Fencibles,' is entitled to very high praise; they maneuver & march like machinery; & if the time should come, they will fight like Spartans.*" This compliment fully repaid us for all our constant & severe drilling, & the fatigue of that fearfully hot day. At night there was a great ball at "*Knap's Tavern*," at which a good many "*Sea Fencibles*," in their handsome uniform attended, & monopolized their *full share* of the pretty, patriotic girls as partners.

As I was soon to leave, I did not secure a new musket, & was permitted to drill with my "*old grandfather's blunderbuss*," which had done good service in the *war of the Revolution*. It was a heavy six footer, & that nearly broke me down. I have it now.

Shortly after this "*general training*," I was called to New York, & soon afterwards to Carolina, where I again "*did duty*" as a volunteer in an artillery company for defence; & the future history of that famous band of Mill River Sea Fencibles is quite unknown to me; only I remember their services were volunteered to Governor Griswold for defence as far eastward as Bridgeport, & as far west as Norwalk. But when I call to mind, as I have often done, & do now, the *character* of that company, almost all of mature age, all citizens of the place, & almost all men of family & property—captains, mates & sailors, soon to become mates & captains—men of stalwart, hardy forms, with character marked in their manly features, I have felt, nay, I am sure, that had occasion made it necessary, they would have earned the compliment paid them by Col. Burr; & in defence of their property, the homes & firesides of their families, they would have "*fought like Spartans*." Yes, like very devils!

And, alas, when I call to mind the health & strength & manly appearance of that little band of patriotic soldiers, whose very countenances are remembered—when I recall the many meetings with them, & the *resolves* we then made in case of invasion—when I search my memory, time & time again, & inquire if a single original member of them is yet alive—and above all, when I ask myself why is it, in the mysterious ways of Divine goodness, that so many young & useful & promising ones are snatched away in the prime of life & I am spared, I can arrive at no other conclusion, than that time is still given me to be *better prepared* to meet my blessed Saviour; & that my daily duty is to strive & pray to be more & more willing, & better prepared to answer the dread summons.

JOSEPH EARL SHEFFIELD.

Joseph Sheffield was the father of nine children, four of whom are still living (1904), viz: Mrs. J. E. S. Porter of Hartford, Conn.; Mrs. William Walter Phelps of Engle-



wood, N. J.; Mrs. W. J. Boardman of Washington, D. C. & George St. John Sheffield of Attleborough, Mass. Another daughter was the late Mrs. Harriet Van Buren.

### THE EXPERIENCE OF A YALE STUDENT IN 1781.

After 17 months' preparatory discipline (4 books of Virgil, 4 of Tully's Orations in Latin, & four evangelists in Greek, being then required) I entered Yale with about 100 men—being the largest class that at that time ever entered—in the year 1781, under the administration of Ezra Stiles, President, S. T. D., an aged man, who, when abroad wore a large white wig, & used an eye-glass, being near sighted—him to honor—(raining or not) we must never approach nearer than ten rods without pulling off our hats; & five rods for a tutor. The first year after entrance they are called Freshmen—Second year Sophomores—Third year Juniors—Fourth year Seniors. After four years they take the first degree A. B. or Bachelor of Arts—some time after they take the second degree A. M. or Master of Arts. If a scholar be absent from prayers, which commence at the ringing of the bell morning & evening at six o'clock *non audiui campanam, habui amicum, or habui special negotium* \*—which is received as an excuse if it does not occur too often—if it does he is fined. They recite three lessons a day at morning, noon & evening.

At meal time in the morning every one at the ringing of the bell runs with a tea dish—at noon with a knife & fork & at supper with a spoon. Their food is often indifferent but cheap (then) only \$1.25 per week in the hall.

Their hours of relaxation are from 6 till 9, from 12 till 2, & from 5 to 6.

There are three weeks' vacation in January—3 weeks in May—& six beginning in September. Each room in College is furnished with two studios (or closets) where the students keep their books & pursue their studies.

My next adventure was in a school at North Fairfield (Weston) for 45 shillings per month for three months. . . . 1783—I began Staples free school for 166 dollars per year, to board myself—kept only five months, it being removed to Weston by an act of the Assembly, the donor being Staples of Weston, it was then called Weston Academy.

—Journal of William Wheeler.

\* I did not hear the bell ; I had a friend ; or I had special business,

# THE FIRST EXTANT PARISH RECORD

## OF

### CHRIST'S CHURCH, FAIRFIELD

#### RECORD OF THOSE THAT RENEWED THE COVENANT

Aug. 26, 1694....Theophilus Hull and Mary, his wife.  
Elizabeth Comstock.  
Sept. 9, 1694....Sarah Jennings.  
Sept. 16, 1694....John Wheeler.  
Sept. 23, 1694....Samuel Lockwood and Abigail, his wife.  
Oct. 7, 1694....Nathaniel Seymour and Ruth Belden, both of Norwalk.  
Nov. 11, 1694....Isaac Wheeler.  
Dec. 2, 1694....Samuel French.  
Jan. 6, 1695....John Whitlock.  
Feb. 17, 1695....Samuel Smith.  
Susanna Price.  
Feb. 24, 1695....John Barlow.  
Elizabeth Rowland.  
March 10, 1695....Phebe Bennit.  
March 3, 1695....John Hide.  
March 24, 1695....William Hill.  
March 24, 1695....Sarah Higgins and Mary Patchin.  
March 31, 1695....Elizabeth Burr.  
Elizabeth Hendrick.  
Sarah Bennet.  
May 19, 1695....Samuel Hubbell, Jr., and Elizabeth, his wife.  
June 2, 1695....William Coley.  
June 23, 1695....John Nash, of Norwalk.  
July 25, 1695....Abigail Shopley.  
Mary Lyon.  
March 29, 1696....Samuel Sherwood.  
April 5, 1696....Mary Grimes.  
May 3, 1696....Abigail, wife of Simon Couch.  
Edra, wife of Samuel Couch.  
May 24, 1696....Sarah, wife of Joseph Sturges.  
June 14, 1696....Rebecca Guire.  
Aug. 30, 1696....Hannah Rumsy.  
Sept. 6, 1696....Mary, wife of John Bennet.  
Martha Finch.  
Sept. 13, 1696....Elizabeth Jessup.  
March 7, 1697....Phebe Wilson.  
Sept. 5, 1697....Mary, wife of Nathan Jennings.  
March 27, 1697....John Downs.  
July 17, 1697....Anne Godfrey.

Jan. 16, 1698....Abigail Bradley.  
May 19, 1699....Joseph Wakeman.  
Mr. John Read.  
Dec. 6, 1699....Sarah, wife of Francis Bradley.  
Dec. 17, 1699....Anna Malory.  
June 30, 1700....Gideon Allen.  
Aug. 4, 1700....Peter Coley.  
Jan. 5, 1700....Mary, wife of Theodore Morehouse.  
May 25, 1701....John Hide.  
Sept. 21, 1701....John Bradley.  
Jan. 4, 1702....Gershom Bulkley.  
Aug. 30, 1702....Rebecca, wife of Daniel Adams.  
April 24, 1703....Esther Williams.  
May 16, 1703....John Middlebrook.  
June 6, 1703....Mrs. Esther Sloss.  
March 7, 1703....John Osborn.  
May 21, 1704....John Morehouse.  
May 27, 1705....Ezekiel Sandford.  
Aug. 26, 1705....Thomas Sandford.  
Feb. 3, 1706....Joseph Bradley.  
Jan. 26, 1707....Joseph Wheeler.  
March 16, 1707....Joseph Whelpley.  
June 1, 1707....Mr. Daniel Burr, Jr.  
Feb. 8, 1708....Daniel Osborne.  
Feb. 27, 1709....Anna, wife of Robert Rumsey.  
May 22, 1709....Marjory, wife of Samuel Thorp.  
March 12, 1710....Joseph Jennings.  
Aug. 13, 1710....Mary, wife of Christopher Sturges.  
Feb. 11, 1711....Joseph Perry.  
Nov. 4, 1711....Sarah, wife of Nathan Lewis.  
March 2, 1712....Joseph Burr.  
April 20, 1712....Elizabeth Whitehead.  
May 11, 1712....Daniel Knap.  
May 25, 1712....John Winton.  
June 8, 1712....Samuel Lyon.  
Sarah Wood.  
Aug. 24, 1712....Candy, wife of Moses Knap.  
Oct. 26, 1712....Robt. Turney and Elizabeth, his wife.  
Nov. 23, 1712....Luke Guire.  
Sept. 27, 1713....Jonathan Squire, Jr., and his wife.

- Feb. 7, 1713-14....Ruth, wife of Benjamin Banks.  
 July 11, 1714....John Hoile.  
 July 10, 1715....Nath'l Wilson, Jr.  
 Jan. 8, 1715-16....Joseph Squire and Abigail, his wife.  
 Sept. 16, 1716....Sarah, wife of Abraham Addams, Jr.  
 Sept. 16, 1716....Elisabeth, wife of William Lyon.  
 Oct. 28, 1716....Mr. John Denny and Mrs. Mary Denny, his wife.  
 May 12, 1717....John Jennings.  
 June 2, 1717....Abigail, wife of William Hill, Jr.  
 Aug. 4, 1717....Elisabeth, wife of Benjamin Gilbert.  
 Nov. 17, 1717....Ebenezer Lyon.  
 Dec. 15, 1717....Samuel Whitlock.  
 Feb. 9, 1717-8....Nathaniel Hull and Elisabeth, his wife.  
 March 23, 1717-8....Annah, wife of John Sylleman.  
 April 20, 1718....James Beers and Hannah, his wife.  
 April 27, 1718....Samuel Gold (Mr.).  
 May 25, 1718....Daniel Bulkley and Hannah, his wife.  
 Aug. 10, 1718....Elisabeth, wife of Solomon Foot.  
 Dec. 7, 1718....Sarah, wife of Jon. Squire.  
 Jan. 25, 1718-19....David Sturgis and Mary, his wife.  
 April 5, 1719....Mary, wife of Lemuel Price.  
 May 3, 1719....Damaris, wife of Thomas Whitlock.  
 June 7, 1719....Joseph Osborn and Hannah, his wife.  
 Nov. 22, 1719....Samuel, son of Sergt. Samuel Lyon.  
 Nov. 22, 1719....Daniel Lyon and Sarah, his wife.  
 Nov. 29, 1719....Thomas Murwin, Jr., and Ruth, his wife.  
 Dec. 13, 1719....Mr. David Thompson and Abigail, his wife.  
 Dec. 20, 1719....Michael Jennings.  
 Feb. 14, 1719-20....Sergt. Andrew Burr.  
 May 15, 1720....Sarah, wife of Sergt. Andrew Burr.  
 May 22, 1720....Francis Bradley and Mary, his wife.  
 June 25, 1720....Mrs. Mary Hill, wife of Mr. Thomas Hill.  
 July 10, 1720....Dorothy, wife of David Williams.  
 Feb. 26, 1720-21....Theophilus Hull and Sarah, his wife.  
 Oct. 29, 1721....Israel Rowland and his wife.  
 Dec. 17, 1721....Anne, wife of Thomas Handford.  
 Dec. 31, 1721....Jeremiah Sturgis and Anne, his wife.  
 Oct. 7, 1722....Moses Dimon, Jr., and Hannah, his wife.  
 Nov. 18, 1722....John Gilbert and Jemimah, his wife.  
 May 26, 1723....Mr. John Wheeler, Jr.  
 June 2, 1723....Rebecca Williams.  
 June 23, 1723....Elisabeth, wife of Mr. John Wheeler.  
 July 14, 1723....Sarah, wife of Josiah Gilbert.  
 Aug. 25, 1723....Mary, daughter of Mr. Joseph Sturgis.  
 Sept. 15, 1723....Mrs. Elisabeth Burr, wife of Sergt. S. Samuel Burr.  
 Dec. 29, 1723....Elizabeth Jennings and Deborah, wife of Thos. Staples, Jr.  
 Jan. 5, 1723-4....Peter Burr, Jr., and Abigail, his wife.  
 Oct. 1, 1724....Eleazer Smith and Eunice, his wife.  
 Feb. 21, 1724-5....James Blair.  
 March 14, 1724-5....The wife of James Blair, by name Hannah.  
 March 14, 1724-5....Eleazar Sturgis and Abigail, his wife.  
 June 13, 1725....Samuel Bradly and Sarah, his wife.  
 1725....Samuel Osborn, Jr., and Abigail, his wife.  
 1725....Esther, wife of Joseph Frost.  
 Oct. 24, 1725....Mr. Samuel Osborn, Sr.  
 Nov., 1725....Solomon Sturgis and his wife.  
 Nov., 1725....Sarah, wife of James Redfield.  
 Dec. 5, 1725....Benjamin Sherwood, Jr., and Eleanor, his wife.  
 Jan. 2, 1725-6....Hannah, wife of Mr. Samuel Osborn.  
 March 6, 1725-6....Joseph Sandford and Lemuel Sandford.  
 May 15, 1726....Abigail, wife of David Ogden.  
 Aug. 4, 1726....Hannah, wife of Jonathan Beebe.  
 Oct. 16, 1726....Peter Bulkley Cooper.  
 Nov. 6, 1726....Samuel Murwin.  
 Jan. 22, 1726-7....Abigail, wife of Samuel Murwin.  
 Jan. 22, 1726-7....William Hill, Jr., and Hannah, his wife.  
 Sept. 3, 1727....Jeremiah Jennings and Elisabeth, his wife.  
 Nov. 26, 1727....Martha Patchin. ✓  
 Dec. 10, 1727....Mary, wife of John Bedient.  
 Jan. 21, 1727-8....Stephen Wakeman and Rebecca, his wife.  
 Feb. 18, 1727-8....Jabez Wakeman and Ruth, his wife.  
 March 10, 1727-8....Ephraim Burr and Abigail, his wife.  
 July 21, 1728....Elizabeth, wife of Sergeant John Dimon.  
 July 28, 1728....Isaac Jennings, Jr.  
 Jan. 26, 1728-9....Ebenezer Bartram and Elisabeth, his wife.  
 Aug. 17, 1729....Mr. Isaac Jennings and Mrs. Abigail Jennings, his wife.  
 Dec. 7, 1729....Mary, wife of James Rowland.  
 Feb. 1, 1729-30....Joshua Jeacock.  
 Nov. 22, 1730....Mr. Ebenezer Dimon and Mrs. Mary Dimon, his wife.

March 21, 1730-1.	Mr. Peter Penfield and Mrs. Mary Penfield, his wife.	Nov. 28, 1731....	Joseph Sherwood and Sarah, his wife.
July 4, 1731....	Mr. Ephraim Sandford.	June 11, 1732....	Deborah, wife of Thomas Staples, Jr.
Sept. 26, 1731....	David Bartram and Mehitabel, his wife.	July 30, 1732....	Mr. James Smedley.

## THOSE WHO RECOGNIZED THEIR BAPTISMAL ENGAGEMENTS

July 1, 1733....	Joseph Bradly.	May 17, 1747....	Hannah, wife of Nathaniel Pier-son.
Dec. 23, 1733....	Nathaniel Burr, Jr.	Oct. 25, 1747....	Nathaniel Wilson, Jr., and Mary, his wife.
Nov. 16, 1735....	David Bulkley.	Jan. 10, 1747....	Ann Gold.
May 9, 1736....	Jonathan Osborn.	March 6, 1747-8..	Jabez Frost and Deborah, his wife.
Oct. 31, 1736....	Abigail Barlow.	March 13, 1747-8..	Joseph Frost and Esther, his wife.
May 1, 1737....	Esther, wife of John Hill.	Oct. 23, 1748....	Stephen Turney and Sarah, his wife.
May 22, 1737....	Samuel Rowland, Jr., and Abigail, his wife.	Apr. 30, 1749....	Ebenezer Wakeman and Ann, his wife.
June 5, 1737....	Deborah Lyon.	Oct. 15, 1749....	Benjamin Jennings.
July 3, 1737....	Jonathan Middlebrook.	Dec. 10, 1749....	John Wilson and Eunice, his wife.
Jan. 1, 1737-8....	James Burr.	Dec. 24, 1749....	Ebenezer Middlebrook and Sarah, his wife.
March 12, 1737-8..	Gershom Whitehead.	July 1, 1750....	Zephaniah Clark and Olive, his wife.
March 11, 1738-9..	Abijah Morehouse and Mary, his wife.	Oct. 14, 1750....	Jabez Bulkley and Elisabeth, his wife.
March 18, 1738-9..	David Hubbel and Martha, his wife.	Dec. 30, 1750....	David Ogden, Jr., and Jane, his wife.
April 22, 1739....	Eleazer Osborn.	Dec. 1, 1751....	Ebenezer Knap and Elisabeth, his wife.
April 29, 1739....	Elizabeth Bostwick. Michael Middlebrook and Abiah, his wife.	June 28, 1752....	Hezekiah Sturgis and Abigail, his wife.
Nov. 30, 1740....	Abigail Craine.	Oct. 15, 1752....	Seth Osborn and Sarah, his wife.
Jan. 4, 1740-1....	Daniel Andrews and his wife.	Nov. 5, 1752....	John Wheeler and Ann, his wife.
Sept. 13, 1741....	Nathaniel Perry and Mary, his wife.	Nov. 26, 1752....	David Burr and Eunice, his wife.
Sept. 20, 1741....	Peter Bulkley the 3rd.	March 11, 1753....	Samuel Wilson and Eunice, his wife.
Oct. 4, 1741....	Samuel Hubbel.	July 22, 1753....	John Parrit and Sarah, his wife.
Oct. 25, 1741....	Daniel Perry and Mary, his wife.	Sept. 30, 1753....	Martha, widow of David Hubbel.
Feb. 21, 1741-2....	Samuel Morehouse and Ruth, his wife.	Nov. 11, 1753....	Daniel Jennings, Jr., and Eunice, his wife.
March 7, 1741-2..	Robert Wilson and Catherine, his wife.	Dec. 30, 1753....	Talcott Bulkley and Esther, his wife.
May 16, 1742....	Samuel Wakeman and Ruth, his wife.	Feb. 10, 1754....	Eben. Meeker, Jr., and Eliza, his wife.
May 16, 1742....	Stephen Jennings and Hannah, his wife.	Jan. 13, 1754....	Jesse Hunt and Sarah, his wife.
May 16, 1742....	Catee Gould.	Apr. 7, 1754....	Samuel Burr, Jr., and Eunice, his wife.
March 27, 1743....	Sarah, wife of James Redfield.	July 21, 1754....	Nathan Hill and Eunice, his wife.
Feb. 5, 1743-4....	Micah Perry.	July 28, 1754....	Gideon Wells and Catherine, his wife.
July 8, 1744....	Samuel Beers and Thankful, his wife.	Sept. 22, 1754....	Jonathan Lewis and Sarah, his wife.
Oct. 28, 1744....	James Morehouse and Hannah, his wife.	Oct. 27, 1754....	Jabez Thorp and Ann, his wife.
Nov. 11, 1744....	Jabez Barlow.		
Aug. 18, 1745....	Joseph Squire and Mehitabel, his wife.		
Aug. 18, 1745....	John Murwin.		
Oct. 13, 1745....	Dorothy, wife of John Murwin.		
Sept. 28, 1746....	Abigail, wife of Samuel Squire, Jr.		
March 29, 1729....	John Jennings, Jr., and Sarah, his wife.		



Nov. 10, 1754....	Abraham Gold and Elisabeth, his wife.	Feb. 5, 1764....	Joseph Sturgis and Sarah, his wife.
July 6, 1755....	Joseph Bartram.	June 17, 1764....	Nehemiah Burr and Sarah, his wife.
July 20, 1755....	Nathaniel Hull and Abigail, his wife.	June 17, 1764....	Eleazer Osborne, Jr., and Sarah, his wife.
July 20, 1755....	James Hall and Abigail, his wife.	April 28, 1765....	Reuben Osborne and Ellen, his wife.
July 20, 1755....	Daniel Morehouse and Sarah, his wife.	June 9, 1765....	Jonathan Bulkley and Hannah, his wife.
Aug. 10, 1755....	Abel Gold and Ellen, his wife.	Aug. 25, 1765....	John Smedly and Eunice, his wife.
Sept. 14, 1755....	Job Bartram.	June 1, 1766....	William Dimon and Esther, his wife.
Dec. 7, 1755....	Howes Osborn and Mary, his wife.	July 20, 1766....	Grace Hubbel.
March 28, 1756....	Ichabod Wheeler and Deborah, his wife.	Aug. 17, 1766....	Samuel Beers, Jr., and Sarah, his wife.
April 18, 1756....	David Wakeman and Mary, his wife.	Sept. 7, 1766....	Paul Nichols and Sarah, his wife.
Sept. 12, 1756....	James Beers, Jr., and Hannah, his wife.	Jan. 25, 1767....	Amelia Burr, widow of Ebenezer Burr.
Oct. 10, 1756....	Daniel Burr and Ann, his wife.	Sept. 13, 1767....	David Turney and Sarah, his wife.
Nov. 21, 1756....	Matthew Jennings and Rebecca, his wife.	March 7, 1768....	Ebenezer Hubbel and Lydia, his wife.
March 6, 1757....	Hezekiah Platt and Sarah, his wife.	Apr. 30, 1769....	Jonathan Maltby and Elizabeth, his wife.
May 15, 1757....	Edmond Hunt and Abigail, his wife.	Aug. 20, 1769....	Hezekiah Fitch and Jerusha, his wife.
May 22, 1757....	Samuel Silliman and Elizabeth, his wife.	Oct. 29, 1769....	Wakeman Burr and Mary, his wife.
Jan. 8, 1758....	Benjamin Osborn and Mary, his wife.	June 3, 1770....	Peter Perry and Sarah, his wife.
April 16, 1758....	Jerusha Sturgis.	Sept. 16, 1770....	David Allen and Sarah, his wife.
Sept. 3, 1758....	John Redfield and Sarah, his wife.	Oct. 14, 1770....	Israel Bibbins and Hannah, his wife.
Dec. 31, 1758....	James Penfield and Ellen, his wife.	Feb. 8, 1771....	Ezra Jennings and Martha, his wife.
Aug. 12, 1759....	Nathan Burr and Ruth, his wife.	Apr. 26, 1771....	John Penfield and Eunice, his wife.
Aug. 12, 1759....	Moses Bulkley.	Oct. 27, 1771....	Daniel Dimon and Lois, his wife.
Sept. 16, 1759....	Samuel Penfield and Eliza, his wife.	Nov. 3, 1771....	Andrew Bulkley and Abigail, his wife.
Sept. 28, 1760....	Ebenezer Bartram and Mary, his wife.	Feb. 16, 1772....	Samuel Sturgis.
Nov. 9, 1760....	Jonathan Sturgis and Deborah, his wife.	April 19, 1772....	Abijah Morehouse and Mary, his wife.
Aug. 16, 1761....	Ebenezer Perry and Martha, his wife.	Sept. 27, 1772....	Isaac Jennings and Abigail, his wife.
Sept. 13, 1761....	Moses Jennings and Abigail, his wife.	Nov. 1, 1772....	David Osborne and Mary, his wife.
Jan. 17, 1762....	Squier Wakeman, Damaris, his wife, having before done the same at Greenfield.	Nov. 8, 1772....	Sarah, wife of Ezekiel Hull.
Feb. 7, 1762....	Rebecca, the wife of Samuel Mann, he having before done the same at North Stratford.	Dec. 18, 1774....	Samuel Smedley and Esther, his wife.
May 30, 1762....	Jonathan Ogden and Sarah, his wife.	June 4, 1775....	Ebenezer Wakeman and Anne, his wife.
June 27, 1762....	Jonathan Silliman and Ann, his wife.	July 31, 1775....	Joseph Osborn and Mary Osborn, his wife.
Nov. 15, 1762....	Peter Jennings and Eunice, his wife.	Aug. 27, 1775....	Anne, the wife of Samuel Squire, Jr.
Dec. 5, 1762....	Hezekiah Nichols and Ann, his wife.	Aug. 27, 1775....	Mary, the wife of Aaron Hubbel.
Sept. 4, 1763....	David Dimon and Ann, his wife.	Oct. 1, 1775....	Gershom Osborn and Grizzel, his wife.
Sept. 4, 1763....	Peter Penfield, Jr., and Hannah, his wife.		

Oct. 29, 1775....	Martha Osborn.	Aug. 17, 1783....	John Perry and Hannah, his wife.
Nov. 19, 1775....	John Wilson, Jr., and Elisabeth, his wife.	Oct. 26, 1783....	Jabez Perry.
March 17, 1776....	Daniel Wilson and Sarah, his wife.	Nov. 3, 1783....	Peter Hull and Mary, his wife.
March 24, 1776....	Isaac Morehouse and Sarah, his wife.	Nov. 14, 1783....	David Ogden and Sally, his wife.
Sept. 22, 1776....	Uriah Morehouse and Sarah, his wife.	Feb. 8, 1784....	William Pike.
Nov. 24, 1776....	David Jennings and Mehitabel, his wife.	Feb. 29, 1784....	Joshua Davies and Abigail, his wife.
Feb. 23, 1777....	Ebenezer Squire and Mary, his wife.	May 2, 1784....	Nathan Jennings and Mary, his wife.
March 9, 1777....	Thomas Staples and Hannah, his wife.	May 2, 1784....	William Burr and Eunice, his wife.
July 20, 1777....	Nathan Thorp and Patience, his wife.	June 6, 1784....	Nathaniel and Rachel Penfield.
July 27, 1777....	Elizabeth, wife of James Jennings.	June 27, 1784....	Samuel, Jr., and Abigail Burr.
Nov. 5, 1777....	Abigail, wife of Jabez Hubbel, being sick and ready to die.	Oct. 24, 1784....	Joseph Hayes and Sarah, his wife.
Dec. 2, 1777....	John Squire, Jr., and Elisabeth, his wife.	Nov. 21, 1784....	Hannah, the widow of Gideon Hawley.
July 12, 1778....	Jonathan Darrow and Molly, his wife.	Feb. 27, 1785....	George and Huldah Allen.
Aug. 2, 1778....	Jeremiah Jennings and Elisabeth, his wife.	March 20, 1785....	David Redfield and his wife.
Jan. 24, 1779....	Nehemiah Fowler and Abiah, his wife.	May 1, 1785....	Caleb and Anna Brewster.
Jan. 24, 1779....	Nathan Beers and Mehitabel, his wife.	May 15, 1785....	Eunice, the wife of Abraham Cooper Woodhull.
Feb. 15, 1779....	Abel Gold, Jr., and Elisabeth, his wife.	May 15, 1785....	Benjamin Dickinson and Esther, his wife.
May 30, 1779....	Joseph Bulkley and Grizzel, his wife.	March 26, 1786....	Mary, the wife of Aaron Rawlins.
Aug. 15, 1779....	Walter Buddington and Ruth, his wife.	April 16, 1786....	Abel Turney and Deborah, his wife.
Sept. 12, 1779....	Joseph Squire.	July 18, 1786....	Stephen Adams and Ellen, his wife.
Dec. 5, 1779....	Ebenezer Sturges and Sarah, his wife.	Nov. 26, 1786....	Ebenezer Knap and Ellen, his wife.
March 26, 1780....	Stephen and Grizzel Osborn.	Nov. 26, 1786....	Amos Wilson and Ellen, his wife.
March 26, 1780....	Lothrop and Ellen Lewis.	Nov. 26, 1786....	Eleazar Bulkley and Mary, his wife.
March 26, 1780....	Josiah and Abigail Beardslee.	Nov. 30, 1786....	Abraham Morehouse and Ruth, his wife.
April 2, 1780....	Wright White and Esther, his wife.	Feb. 1, 1787....	John Knap, Jr., and Mary, his wife.
Jan. 20, 1781....	Jabez Hubbel and Rhoda, his wife.	July 29, 1787....	Nathan Whiting and Anna, his wife.
June 10, 1781....	John Osborn.	Nov. 4, 1787....	Hezekiah Burr.
July 1, 1781....	Reuben Sherwood and Abigail, his wife.	Nov. 4, 1787....	John Wilson and Sarah, his wife.
Dec. 23, 1781....	Elizabeth Penfield.	Nov. 11, 1787....	James Penfield, Jr.
July 14, 1782....	David Dickinson and Mary, his wife.	Dec. 2, 1787....	Mabel, the wife of Paul Sheffield.
Sept. 9, 1782....	Mary Perry.	May 18, 1788....	Jos. Perry.
Oct. 27, 1782....	William and Anne Morehouse.	July 13, 1788....	Elnathan Smith.
Nov. 3, 1782....	Chauncey Wheeler and Carolina Matilda, his wife.	Nov. 30, 1788....	William Sturges and Mary, his wife.
Feb. 2, 1783....	Dimon Sturges and Sarah, his wife.	June 7, 1789....	Samuel Penfield, Jr.
April 13, 1783....	Abigail, widow of Judson Sturges.	July 19, 1789....	Edward Sturges and Elisabeth, his wife.
April 17, 1783....	Aaron Turney.	Aug. 9, 1789....	Asa Turney and Polly, his wife.
		Aug. 23, 1789....	Miah Perry and Elisabeth, his wife.
		Dec. 20, 1789....	Anna, the wife of Talcot Gold.
		May 16, 1790....	Daniel Osborn, Jr.
		July 4, 1790....	Abraham Gold.

Aug.	1, 1790....	Abigail Jarvis (widow).	July	24, 1796....	Jesse Dimon.
Aug.	1, 1790....	Barlow and Eunice Sturges.	July	24, 1796....	Sarah, wife of Lothrop Lewis.
Aug.	1, 1790....	William and Esther Squire. John and Eunice Godfrey.	March	19, 1797....	Freelove, wife of Silas Nichols.
Oct.	7, 1790....	Joanna Bennet.	March	26, 1797....	Lewis Burr Sturges.
Jan.	2, 1791....	Gershom Burr and Susanna, his wife.	April	30, 1797....	Jessup Wakeman and Esther, his wife.
Feb.	20, 1791....	Squire Nichols and Lydia, his wife.	June	25, 1797....	Sturges Thorp and Nancy, his wife.
March	21, 1791....	Daniel Barlow and Abigail, his wife.	Oct.	29, 1797....	Ruth Perry.
March	31, 1791....	Isaac Gold and Ellen, his wife.	Feb.	3, 1798....	Elijah Bibbins and Lucretia, his wife.
March	31, 1791....	Nathan Adam Hayes.	Feb.	8, 1798....	Thomas Hull and Abigail, his wife.
Oct.	2, 1791....	Nathaniel Silliman.	March	25, 1798....	Lewis Goodsel and Debby, his wife.
Oct.	16, 1791....	Gold Silliman and Esther, his wife.	Nov.	29, 1798....	Jesse Wheeler and Anna, his wife.
		Irene, the wife of George Squier.	May	12, 1799....	Job Bartram and Anthy, his wife.
Feb.	5, 1792....	Samuel Staples and Esther, his wife.	Aug.	18, 1799....	Thomas Bartram and Sarah, his wife.
May	1, 1792....	Samuel Sherwood and Priscilla, his wife.	Dec.	22, 1799....	John Morehouse and Hannah, his wife.
May	13, 1792....	Barnabas Lothrop Sturges and Mary, his wife.	April	7, 1800....	Aaron Hubbel and Betsey Hubbel, his wife.
June	17, 1792....	William Hayes and Jane, his wife.	Sept.	14, 1800....	Elizabeth Dewey.
Dec.	16, 1792....	Walter Staples and Mary, his wife.	Jan.	18, 1801....	Catherine Wheeler.
March	10, 1793....	John Wheeler.	March	13, 1801....	Abraham Parrot.
May	12, 1793....	Abel Sherwood and Mary, his wife.	April	5, 1801....	Eunice Wakeman.
May	12, 1793....	Abraham Morehouse, Jr., and Sarah, his wife.	June	28, 1801....	Abel Ogden and Betsey, his wife.
June	29, 1794....	Rowland Spalding and Mary, his wife.	Oct.	18, 1801....	Samuel Beers, Jr., and Ralph Burns.
Nov.	16, 1794....	David Sturges and Thankful, his wife.	Sept.	19, 1802....	William Wheeler, Justus Sherwood and Sally, his wife.
Dec.	14, 1794....	Walter Perry and Elizabeth Burr, his wife.	Nov.	7, 1802....	Levi Perry.
May	10, 1795....	Jason Gold and Catherine, his wife.	March	13, 1803....	Daniel Beers Osborn.
May	17, 1795....	Walter Thorp and Ruamah, his wife.	March	13, 1803....	Joseph Sturges and Sarah, his wife.
May	31, 1795....	Samuel Squire, 3rd, and Lucy Squire, his wife.	Aug.	7, 1803....	Stephen Osborn, Jr.
June	14, 1795....	Ebenezer Burr, Jr.	Sept.	2, 1804....	David Burr.
July	5, 1795....	Benjamin Wilson and Martha, his wife.	Sept.	2, 1804....	Barnabas Bartram and Deborah, his wife.
Oct.	11, 1795....	Abel Beers and Elizabeth, his wife.	Dec.	23, 1804....	David Wilson and Betsey, his wife.
Nov.	27, 1795....	Isaac Gold and Mary, his wife.	April	7, 1805....	Billy Bibbins and Anna, his wife.
Feb.	7, 1796....	Hezekiah Osborn and Nancy, his wife.	April	7, 1805....	Seth Osborn and Eunice, his wife.
			June	9, 1805....	James Allen and Abigail, his wife.
			Dec.	15, 1805....	John Gold and Elizabeth Allen.

## RECORD OF BAPTISMS

Aug.	19, 1694..	Seth and Samuel, sons of Mr. Daniel Burr, Sr.	Aug.	26, 1694....	Sarah and Rebecca, daughters of Cornelius Hull, Jr.
Aug.	26, 1694....	Samuel, son of Mr. Nathan and Mrs. Hannah Gold. —	Aug.	26, 1694....	Elizabeth, daughter of John and Esther Bulkly.
Aug.	26, 1694....	Isaac, son of Daniel Frost.	Aug.	26, 1694....	Mary and Anne, daughters of Theophilus Hull.
Aug.	26, 1694....	Daniel, son of Daniel and Elizabeth Cumstock of Norwalk.	Sept.	9, 1694....	Nathaniel, son of William Lyon.

Sept. 9, 1694....	Michael, son of Samuel Jennings.	Dec. 30, 1694....	Abigail, wife of Daniel Sylleman.
Sept. 9, 1694....	Mary, daughter of Jonathan Squire.	Dec. 30, 1694....	Benjamin, son of John Sturgis, Jr.
Sept. 9, 1694....	Martha, daughter of Samuel Hull.	Jan. 6, 1694-5....	John and Thomas, sons of Jno. Whitlock.
Sept. 16, 1694....	Thomas and Samuel, sons of John Gruman.	Jan. 6, 1694-5....	Hannah, daughter of P. Whitlock.
Sept. 16, 1694....	John, son of John and Abigail Wheeler.	Jan. 6, 1694-5....	Sarah, daughter of David Whitlock.
Sept. 16, 1694....	Sarah, daughter of Robert Sylleman.	Jan. 13, 1694-5....	Jeremiah Fowler.
Sept. 23, 1694....	Sarah, daughter of Joseph Bulkly.	Jan. 20, 1694-5....	Deborah and Hannah, daughters of Abraham Addams.
Sept. 23, 1694....	Abigail, daughter of Daniel and Abigail Lockwood.	Jan. 20, 1694-5....	Sarah, daughter of Nathaniel Burr, Jr.
Oct. 7, 1694....	John, son of Jonathan Morehouse.	Jan. 20, 1694-5....	Edward, John and Henry, sons of Edward and Sarah Lacy.
Oct. 7, 1694....	John, son of Mr. Albert Denny.	Jan. 20, 1694-5....	Sarah, Mary and Elizabeth, daughters of Edward and Sarah Lacy.
Oct. 7, 1694....	Matthew, son of Matthew Seymour.	Jan. 27, 1694-5....	Elizabeth, wife of Nathaniel Wilson.
Oct. 7, 1694....	Hannah, daughter of Jonathan Morehouse.	Jan. 27, 1694-5....	Robert Turney.
Oct. 7, 1694....	Ruth, daughter of Mr. Jno. Bel-den.	Jan. 27, 1694-5....	Thomas Turney.
Oct. 7, 1694....	Margret, daughter of James Redfield.	Jan. 27, 1694-5....	Rebecca Turney.
Oct. 21, 1694....	James, son of Joseph Beers.	Jan. 27, 1694-5....	Abigail Lyon.
Oct. 21, 1694....	Abigail, daughter of Joseph Beers.	Jan. 27, 1694-5....	Hannah Cressy.
Oct. 21, 1694....	John, son of John Dunbar.	Jan. 27, 1694-5....	Joseph Ogden, son of Richard and Sarah Ogden.
Oct. 28, 1694....	Ebenezer, son of Joseph Jennings.	Jan. 27, 1694-5....	Richard Ogden, son of Richard and Sarah Ogden.
Oct. 28, 1694....	Abigail, daughter of Joseph Jennings.	Jan. 27, 1694-5....	Jonathan Ogden, son of Richard and Sarah Ogden.
Oct. 28, 1694....	Sarah, daughter of Jno. Seely.	Jan. 27, 1694-5....	Sarah, daughter of Richard and Sarah Ogden.
Nov. 11, 1694....	Isaac, son of Isaac Wheeler, Jr.	Jan. 27, 1694-5....	Sarah and Jemimah, daughters of Rebecca Turney.
Nov. 11, 1694....	Sarah, daughter of John Odle, Jr.	Jan. 27, 1694-5....	Jonathan, son of Rebecca Turney.
Nov. 11, 1694....	Abigail, daughter of Jonathan Squire.	Feb. 10, 1694-5....	Sarah, wife of Robert Church.
Nov. 18, 1694....	Sarah, daughter of Jonathan Fanton.	Feb. 17, 1694-5....	Daniel Meeker.
Dec. 2, 1694....	Samuel, son of Samuel French.	Feb. 17, 1694-5....	John Smith.
Dec. 9, 1694....	Abraham Addams.	Feb. 17, 1694-5....	Martha Smith.
Dec. 16, 1694....	Israel, son of James Nuton.	Feb. 17, 1694-5....	Sarah Sherwood.
Dec. 16, 1694....	Anne, daughter of James Nuton.	Feb. 17, 1694-5....	Jane Pinkney.
Dec. 23, 1694....	Susannah, wife of Nathaniel Burr, Jr.	Feb. 17, 1694-5....	Hezekiah, son of Mr. Nathan Gold.
Dec. 23, 1694....	Mary, wife of Nathan Addams.	Feb. 17, 1694-5....	Joseph, son of Samuel Smith.
Dec. 23, 1694....	Sarah, wife of John Bartram.	Feb. 17, 1694-5....	Hester, daughter of P. Smith.
Dec. 23, 1694....	Joseph and Nathaniel, sons of Nathaniel Burr, Jr.	Feb. 17, 1694-5....	Lemuel, son of Phillip Price.
Dec. 23, 1694....	Nathan and Nathaniel, sons of Nathan and Mary Addams.	Feb. 17, 1694-5....	Abigail, daughter of Robert and Sarah Church.
Dec. 23, 1694....	Candy, daughter of Nathan and Mary Addams.	Feb. 17, 1694-5....	Sarah, daughter of Robert and Sarah Church.
Dec. 23, 1694....	John, son of John and Sarah Bartram.	Feb. 17, 1694-5....	Elizabeth Bisbom.
Dec. 23, 1694....	Sarah, daughter of John and Sarah Bartram.	Feb. 24, 1694-5....	Samuel Smith, Jr.
Dec. 30, 1694....	James Nuton.	Feb. 24, 1694-5....	John, son of John Barlow.
		Feb. 24, 1694-5....	Mary, daughter of Abraham Addams.
		Feb. 24, 1694-5....	Abigail, daughter of Abraham Addams.
		Feb. 24, 1694-5....	Susanna, daughter of Abraham Addams.



- Feb. 24, 1694-5....Elizabeth, daughter of Abraham Addams.
- March 3, 1694-5....Nehemiah, son of Joseph and Elizabeth Webb.
- March 3, 1694-5....Eliphalet, son of Eliphalet and Esther Hill.
- March 3, 1694-5....John, son of John Hide.
- March 3, 1694-5....Elizabeth, daughter of John Hide.
- March 10, 1694-5....Hannah Close.
- March 10, 1694-5....Mary Gray.
- March 10, 1694-5....Deborah, daughter of John and Phebe Bennit.
- March 10, 1694-5....Mary and Elizabeth, daughters of Israel and Elizabeth Rowland.
- ✓ March 17, 1694-5....Jacob Patchin.
- March 17, 1694-5....Henry Hendrick.
- March 24, 1694-5....John, son of John and Elizabeth Darling.
- ✓ March 24, 1694-5....Joseph, son of Jacob and Mary Patchin.
- March 24, 1694-5....Abigail, daughter of William Hill.
- ✓ March 24, 1694-5....Mary Gruman, daughter of Mary Patchin.
- ✓ March 24, 1694-5....Abigail, daughter of Jacob Patchin.
- March 24, 1694-5....Abigail, daughter of Abraham Higgins.
- March 31, 1694-5....Jno. Niccols.
- March 31, 1695....Deliverance and Thomas, sons of Thomas and Sarah Bennit.
- March 31, 1695....Sarah and Tabitha, daughters of Thomas and Sarah Bennit.
- March 31, 1695....John, son of Henry Hendrick.
- March 31, 1695....Mary, daughter of Mr. Jno. Burr.
- April 7, 1695....Nathaniel, son of Nathaniel Wilson.
- April 7, 1695....Anne, daughter of Nathaniel Wilson.
- April 7, 1695....Nathaniel, son of Cornelius Hull, Jr.
- April 7, 1695....Margery Bisbom, daughter to Susan Price.
- April 7, 1695....Rebecca Bisbom, daughter to Susan Price.
- April 7, 1695....Hannah, daughter of Mathew Sherman.
- April 12, 1695....Daniel and John, sons of Daniel and Abigail Sylleman.
- May 12, 1695....Abigail, Mary and Peaceable, daughters of Daniel and Abigail Sylleman.
- May 19, 1695....Obadiah Gilbert and Joseph Gilbert.
- May 19, 1695....Benjamin, son of Obadiah Gilbert.
- May 19, 1695....Hannah, daughter of Samuel Hubbel.
- June 2, 1695....Daniel, son of Samuel Coley.
- June 2, 1695....Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. John Wakeman.
- June 2, 1695....Jemimah and Abigail, daughters of Samuel and Esther Coley.
- June 16, 1695....Ebenezer, son of John Niccols.
- June 23, 1695....John, son of Mr. Michel Clugston.
- June 23, 1695....John and Nathan, sons of John Nash of Norwalk.
- June 30, 1695....Sarah, daughter of Jno. Whitlock.
- July 7, 1695....Thomas, son of Mr. Jno. Edwards.
- July 7, 1695....Mary, daughter of Mr. Jno. Edwards.
- July 7, 1695....Elizabeth, wife of Daniel Meeker.
- July, 1695....Daniel, David and Joseph, sons of Daniel Meeker.
- July, 1695....Hannah and Elizabeth, daughters of Daniel Meeker.
- July 28, 1695....Joseph Lyon.
- July 28, 1695....Joseph, son of Joseph Lyon.
- July 28, 1695....Thomas and Hezekiah, sons of John Staples.
- July 28, 1695....Abigail and Mehitabel, daughters of John Staples.
- Oct. 20, 1695....Ellen, daughter of Robert Churcher.
- Oct., 1695....John, son, and Martha, daughter, of John Smith.
- Nov. 3, 1695....Benjamin, son of Capt. Thomas Hill.
- Nov. 17, 1695....Lydia Davis.
- Nov. 17, 1695....Samuel, son of Nathan Seymour, Norwalk.
- Jan. 12, 1695....Benjamin, son of John Brooks of Stratford.
- Jan. 12, 1695....Elizabeth Seely.
- Jan. 19, 1695....Mary, daughter of John Davis, Jr.
- Jan. 19, 1695....Samuel, son of Jno. Davis, Jr.
- Feb. 16, 1695-6....Mary, wife of Richard Lyon.
- Feb. 16, 1695....Hannah Jurdain.
- Feb. 16, 1695....Abner, son of Joseph Frost.
- Feb. 16, 1695....William, son of William Lyon.
- March 1, 1695....Elizabeth, wife of John Meeker.
- March 8, 1695....Joshua, son of Jonathan Morehouse.
- March 8, 1695....Hannah, daughter of Elnathan Handford.
- March 29, 1696....Thomas, son of Thomas Murwin.
- March 29, 1696....Mary, daughter of Daniel Lockwood.
- March 29, 1696....Sarah, Susannah and Elizabeth, daughters of John Meeker.
- March 29, 1696....Sarah, daughter of Samuel Sherwood.
- April 5, 1696....Nathaniel Seeley.
- April 5, 1696....Joseph, son of Joseph Grimes.
- April 5, 1696....Samuel, son of Richard Lyon.
- April 5, 1696....Ebenezer, son of Richard Lyon.

April 5, 1696....	Sarah, daughter to Richard Lyon.	Nov. 1, 1696....	Martha, wife of Tho. Morehouse, Jr.
April 5, 1696....	Anna, daughter of Nathaniel Burr, Jr.	Nov. 1, 1696....	Andrew, son to Mr. John Burr.
April 19, 1696....	Mary, daughter of Richard Ogden.	Nov. 1, 1696....	Lemuel, son to Tho. Morehouse, Jr.
April 19, 1696....	Mary, daughter of Nichols Judson.	Nov. 8, 1696....	Mary, daughter to ye Rev'd Mr. Seth Shove of Danbury.
April 26, 1696....	Samuel, son of Samuel Hull.	Nov. 3, 1696....	Elijah, son to Tho. Holliburth.
April 26, 1696....	Samuel, son of John Barlow.	Nov. 17, 1696....	Samuel, son to Mr. Michael Clugston.
May 3, 1696....	David, son of Mr. John Tompson.	Nov. 17, 1696....	Jonathan, son to Eleazar Smith.
May 3, 1696....	Thomas, son of Simon Couch.	Feb. 14, 1696-7....	Hannah, daughter to John Staples.
May 3, 1696....	Abigail, daughter of Simon Couch.	Feb. 21, 1696-7....	Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph Webb.
May 3, 1696....	Mary, daughter of Samuel Couch.	Feb. 28, 1696-7....	Grizzell, daughter to Mr. Albert Denny.
May 10, 1696....	Sarah, daughter to Benjamin Green of Stamford.	March 7, 1696-7....	John, Isaac, Daniel, Joseph and Stephen, sons to Samuel and Phebe Wilson.
May 10, 1696....	Mary, daughter to John Smith.	March 7, 1696-7....	Elizabeth, daughter to Samuel and Phebe Wilson.
May 17, 1696....	Sarah Seely of Bedford.	March 7, 1696-7....	Elizabeth, daughter to Samuel Jennings.
May 17, 1696....	Ellen, daughter to Jonathan Fan-ton.	March 7, 1696-7....	Edward, son to Edward Jessup.
May 24, 1696....	Joseph, David and Jeremiah, sons to Joseph Sturges.	March 21, 1696-7....	Samuel, son to John Niccols.
May 24, 1696....	Edmund, son to John Bennit.	March 21, 1696-7....	Sarah, daughter to Jno. Wheeler.
May 24, 1696....	Elizabeth, daughter to Mr. Jno. Osborn.	April 11, 1697....	Jemimah, daughter to Daniel Sylleman.
June 14, 1696....	Luke, son, and Mary, daughter, to Luke Guire.	April 11, 1697....	Elizabeth, daughter to Henry Hendrick.
June 21, 1696....	Daniel Knap, son to Sybille Niccolson.	April 18, 1697....	Abigail, Rebecca, Helena and Elizabeth, daughters to Eleazar Smith.
July 12, 1696....	Nehemiah, son to widow Sarah Seely.	April 18, 1697....	Ebenezer, son, Helena and Hannah, daughters, to Luke Guire.
July 23, 1696....	Sarah, daughter to Capt. Nathan Gold.	April 18, 1697....	John, son to Jno. Meeker.
Aug. 9, 1696....	Joseph, son to Jno. Barthram.	April 18, 1697....	Mary, daughter to Phil. Price.
Aug. 23, 1696....	Robert and Nathaniel, sons, and Sarah, daughter, to widow Sarah Seely.	May 23, 1697....	Theophilus, son to Theophilus Hull.
Aug. 30, 1696....	Sarah and Hannah, daughters to Isaac Rumsey.	May 23, 1697....	Ebenezer, son to John Sturgis.
Aug. 30, 1696....	Olive, daughter to Jno. Bulkly.	May 23, 1697....	John, son to Obadiah Gilbert.
Sept. 6, 1696....	Jeremiah, Ebenezer and Samuel, sons to John Bennit.	June 13, 1697....	Bethyah, daughter to Jsr. Rowland.
Sept. 6, 1696....	Mary, daughter.	June 20, 1697....	Ebenezer, son to Cornelius Hull.
Sept. 13, 1696....	Gershom, son to Joseph Bulkly.	June 27, 1697....	David, son to Joseph Lyon.
Sept. 13, 1696....	Isaac, son to Isaac Finch.	July 4, 1697....	Rebecca, daughter to Daniel Frost.
Sept. 13, 1696....	Abilene, daughter to Edward Jessup.	July 1, 1697....	Mary, daughter to David Whitlock.
Sept. 20, 1696....	Elizabeth, daughter to Mr. Daniel Burr.	Aug. 15, 1697....	Simon, son to Simon Couch.
Sept. 27, 1696....	Nathaniel, son to Robert Sylleman.	Aug. 22, 1697....	Sarah, daughter to Joseph Jennings.
Oct. 4, 1696....	Mindwell, daughter to Benjamin Sherman.	Sept. 5, 1697....	Mathew, son to Mathew Jennings.
Oct. 11, 1696....	Ruth, daughter to Nathan Adams.	Sept. 5, 1697....	Abigail, daughter to John Barlow.
Oct. 11, 1696....	Damaris, daughter to Jno. Hide.	Sept. 19, 1697....	Elizabeth, daughter to Peter Clapham.
Oct. 25, 1696....	James, son to James Redfield.	Oct. 3, 1697....	Stephen, son to Mr. Daniel Burr.
Oct. 25, 1696....	Abigail, daughter to Samuel Smith.	Oct. 3, 1697....	Daniel, son to Richard Lyon.

- Oct. 31, 1697....Elizabeth, daughter to Mathew Jennings.
- March 27, 1698....Nehemiah, son to Robert Churcher.
- March 27, 1698....John, son to John Downs.
- April 17, 1698....Moses, son to Moses Dimon.
- April 17, 1698....Samuel, son to John Darling.
- April 17, 1698....Anne, daughter to Mr. Jno. Wakeman.
- April 17, 1698....Sarah, daughter to Samuel Smith.
- May 15, 1698....Nathaniel, son to Nathaniel Burr, Jr.
- May 15, 1698....Elizabeth, daughter to Abr. Finch.
- May 8, 1698....Moses, son to William Lyon.
- May 15, 1698....Solomon, son to Joseph Sturgis.
- May 22, 1698....Sarah, daughter to Jacob Patchin.
- May 29, 1698....John Winton, son of Hannah Fountain.
- May 29, 1698....Samuel, son to Aaron Fountain.
- May 29, 1698....Joseph, son to Jeremiah Fowler.
- May 5, 1698....Aaron and Moses, sons to Aaron Fountain.
- June 5, 1698....Hannah, daughter to Aaron Fountain.
- June 5, 1698....Thomas, son to Thomas Morehouse, Jr.
- June 12, 1698....Rebecca and Mary, daughters to Thomas Morehouse, Jr.
- June 12, 1698....Isaac, son to Isaac Rumsey.
- July 10, 1698....Jonathan, son to Jonathan Whitaker.
- July 10, 1698....Bethyah, daughter to Joseph Kirby.
- July 17, 1698....Christopher and Samuel, sons to Christopher Godfrey.
- July 17, 1698....Elizabeth, Mary and Abigail, daughters to Christopher Godfrey.
- Aug. 7, 1698....Adryah, daughter to Samuel Couch.
- Aug. 14, 1698....John, son to Mr. John Edwards.
- Aug. 14, 1698....Anne, daughter to Jonathan Fanton.
- Aug. 21, 1698....John, son to Luke Guire.
- Aug. 21, 1698....Mary, daughter to Robert Lord.
- Sept. 18, 1698....Mary, daughter to Mr. Michael Clugston.
- Sept. 25, 1698....John, son to Thomas Morehouse, Jr.
- Sept. 25, 1698....Patience, daughter to Samuel Jennings.
- Oct. 2, 1698....Mary, daughter to Nathan Adams.
- Oct. 9, 1698....Benjamin, son to Daniel Meeker.
- Jan. 15, 1698-9....Daniel, son to Daniel Bradley.
- March 12, 1698-9....Mary, daughter to Joseph Webb.
- Anne, daughter to Robert Sylleman.
- Ebenezer, son to Joseph Wakeman.
- April 23, 1699....Solomon, son to John Niccols.
- April 23, 1699....John, son to Christopher Godfrey.
- April 23, 1699....Mary, daughter to James Nuton.
- April 30, 1699....Ebenezer, son to John Bartram.
- April 30, 1699....Margaret, daughter to Mr. Albert Denny.
- April 30, 1699....Anne, daughter to Mr. John Burr.
- April 30, 1699....Isaac, Henry, William and David, sons to Henry Gray.
- April 30, 1699....Deborah and Mary, daughters to Henry Gray.
- May 14, 1699....Joseph Jennings.
- May 14, 1699....John, son to Mr. John Read.
- May 14, 1699....William, son to William Hill.
- May 20, 1699....Thomas and Samuel, sons to El-nathan Handford.
- May 27, 1699....Abigail, daughter to Thomas Murwin.
- June 4, 1699....Joseph, son to Edward Jessup.
- July 23, 1699....Peter, son to Daniel Burr.
- Deborah, daughter to Jonathan Squire.
- Aug. 6, 1699....Abigail, daughter to John Smith.
- Aug. 13, 1699....Abigail, daughter to John Wheeler.
- Aug. 27, 1699....Hannah, daughter to Simon Couch.
- Sept. 11, 1699....Robert, son to John Meeker.
- Oct. 15, 1699....Henry, son to Henry Hendrick.
- Oct. 15, 1699....Elizabeth, daughter to Cornelius Hull.
- Nov. 5, 1699....Martha, daughter to Thomas Bennit, Jr.
- Nov. 19, 1699....Anne, daughter to John Barlow.
- Nov. 19, 1699....Deborah, daughter to Samuel Smith.
- Nov. 26, 1699....Sarah, daughter to Abraham Higgins.
- Dec. 3, 1699....Nathan, son to Samuel Hubbel.
- Dec. 3, 1699....Francis, son to Francis Bradley.
- Dec. 17, 1699....Jonathan, son to William Mal-lery.
- Feb. 11, 1699-1700....Sarah, daughter to Samuel Jennings.
- Feb. 18, 1699-1700....Samuel, son to Samuel Sherwood.
- Feb. 25, 1699-1700....Nathaniel, son to John Donn's.
- March 3, 1699-1700....Sarah, daughter to Capt. Nathan Gold.
- March 10, 1699-1700....Sarah, daughter to Joseph Sturges.
- April 7, 1700....Daniel, son to Nathan Jennings.
- April 14, 1700....Ephraim, son to Nathaniel Burr, Jr.
- April 21, 1700....Catherine, daughter to Joseph Wakeman.
- April 5, 1700....Daniel, son to John Hide.
- April 5, 1700....Abigail, daughter to Robert Lord.
- May 26, 1700....William, son to Aaron Fountain.

- June 2, 1700....Joseph, son to John Bagly.  
 June 16, 1700....William, son to Daniel Frost.  
 June 23, 1700....Cornelius, son to Samuel Hull.  
 June 30, 1700....Sarah and Annah, daughters to Gideon Allen.  
 July 28, 1700....Thomas, son to John Niccols.  
 Aug. 4, 1700....Abigail, daughter to McDougal Mackenzie.  
 Aug. 4, 1700....Hannah, daughter to Peter Coly.  
 Aug. 11, 1700....Martha, daughter to Joseph Jennings.  
 Aug. 25, 1700....Samuel, son to Daniel Meeker.  
 Sept. 1, 1700....Johannah, daughter to Nathan Addams.  
 Sept. 8, 1700....Thaddeus, son to Mr. Peter Burr.  
 Sept. 8, 1700....Benjamin, son to William Lyon.  
 Sept. 8, 1700....Elizabeth, daughter to Obadiah Gilbert.  
 Sept. 22, 1700....Jonathan, son to Jonathan Fanton.  
 Sept. 22, 1700....Samuel, son to Samuel Couch.  
 Oct. 22, 1700....Martha, daughter to Mr. John Wakeman.  
 Nov. 17, 1700....John, son to Moses Dimon.  
 Dec. 8, 1700....Grace, daughter of Joseph Webb.  
 Dec. 8, 1700....Samuel, son to Mr. John Edwards.  
 Dec. 22, 1700....Abraham, son to Daniel Morehouse.  
 Jan. 5, 1700-1....John, son to Thomas Morehouse, Jr.  
 Jan. 5, 1700-1....George, son to George Barlow.  
 Jan. 12, 1700-1....Abigail, daughter to John Bennit.  
 Feb. 2, 1700-1....Elizabeth, daughter to Mr. John Burr.  
 March 2, 1700-1....Esther, daughter to Joseph Sturges.  
 March 9, 1700-1....Mary, daughter to Daniel Bradly.  
 March 30, 1701....Eliphalet, son to Theophilus Hull.  
 March 30, 1701....Benjamin, son to Benjamin Sherwood.  
 April 27, 1701....Jane, daughter to Daniel Burr.  
 May 18, 1701....Joseph, son to John Barlow.  
 May 25, 1701....Sarah, daughter to John Hill.  
 June 15, 1701....Hannah, daughter to Richard Lyon.  
 June 22, 1701....Nathaniel, son to Nathaniel Seely.  
 June 29, 1701....Joseph, son to John Darling.  
 July 13, 1701....Martha, daughter to Cornelius Hull.  
 Aug. 24, 1701....Martha, daughter to Robert Sylleman.  
 Sept. 14, 1701....Thomas, son to Thomas Staples.  
 Sept. 14, 1701....Gershom, son to James Bennit.  
 Sept. 21, 1701....John, son to John Bradly.  
 Sept. 21, 1701....Abigail, Elizabeth and Ruth, daughters to John Bradly.  
 Sept. 28, 1701....Dorothy, daughter to John Sturgis.  
 Oct. 19, 1701....Onesimus, son to Capt. Nathan Simul.  
 Oct. 19, 1701....John, son to McDougal Mackenzie.  
 Oct. 26, 1701....Samuel, son to Francis Bradly.  
 Nov. 2, 1701....Jacob, son to Jacob Patchin.  
 Nov. 2, 1701....Joseph, son to Benjamin Rumsy.  
 Nov. 2, 1701....Ann and Sarah, daughters to Benjamin Rumsy.  
 Nov. 2, 1701....Dorothy Bedient.  
 Nov. 16, 1701....John, son to John Staples.  
 Nov. 30, 1701....Annabel, daughter to Mr. Albert Denny.  
 Dec. 28, 1701....Joseph, son to John Downs.  
 Dec. 28, 1701....Mary, daughter of John Wheeler.  
 Jan. 4, 1701-2....Eunice, daughter to Gershom Bulkly.  
 Feb. 1, 1701-2....John, son to John Thorp, Jr.  
 March 22, 1701-2....John, son to Joseph Bulkly.  
 March 22, 1701-2....Samuel, son to Samuel Jennings.  
 March 22, 1701-2....Eleanor, daughter to Elnathan Handford.  
 March 29, 1702....Sarah, daughter to Robert Lord.  
 March 29, 1702....Deborah, daughter to Samuel Smith.  
 April 5, 1702....Rebecca, daughter to Israel Rowland.  
 April 12, 1702....Josiah, son to Samuel Hull.  
 April 19, 1702....Eleazar, son to John Smith.  
 April 19, 1702....Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph Wakeman.  
 April 26, 1702....Hannah, daughter to Henry Hendrick.  
 May 9, 1702....John, son to Simon Couch.  
 May 9, 1702....John, son to Aaron Fountain.  
 May 9, 1702....Elizabeth, daughter to Jonathan Morehouse.  
 May 16, 1702....Mary, daughter to Thomas Morehouse, Jr.  
 May 24, 1702....Deborah, daughter to Jno. Meeker.  
 June 14, 1702....Joseph, son to John Bradly.  
 June 14, 1702....Abigail, daughter to Joseph Sturgis.  
 June 21, 1702....Abigail, daughter to John Hide.  
 July 12, 1702....William, son to William Hill.  
 July 12, 1702....Josiah, son to John Bagly.  
 July 12, 1702....Deborah, daughter to Edward Jessup.  
 Aug. 9, 1702....Daniel, son to Daniel Crowfoot.  
 Aug. 16, 1702....Francis, son to John Barlow.  
 Aug. 30, 1702....Peter, son to Peter Coly.  
 Aug. 30, 1702....Robert, son to Robert Turney.  
 Aug. 30, 1702....Rebecca, daughter to Daniel Addams.  
 Sept. 13, 1702....David, son, and Sarah, daughter, to Mr. Jonathan Sturgis.  
 Oct. 4, 1702....Hannah Gee and Elizabeth Rumsy.



- Oct. 4, 1702....Martha, daughter to Daniel  
Bradly.
- Oct. 11, 1702....Isaac, son to Isaac Jennings.
- Oct. 18, 1702....Abigail, daughter to Samuel  
Sherwood.
- Oct. 25, 1702....Abigail, daughter to Mr. Peter  
Burr.
- Nov. 1, 1702....Stephen, son to Mr. John Wake-  
man.
- Nov. 29, 1702....Avis, daughter to Nathan Ad-  
dams.
- Dec. 6, 1702....George, son to George Squire.
- Dec. 13, 1702....David, son to John Bartram.
- Dec. 27, 1702....Benjamin, son to Samuel Couch.
- Jan. 10, 1702-3....Sarah, daughter to Daniel More-  
house.
- Jan. 31, 1702-3....Gideon, son to Gideon Allen.
- Jan. 31, 1702-3....Joseph, son to Benjamin Sher-  
wood.
- Jan. 31, 1702-3....Esther, daughter to Daniel Burr.
- Jan. 31, 1702-3....Sarah, daughter of Joseph Webb.
- Feb. 14, 1702-3....Isaac, son to Christopher God-  
frey.
- Feb. 28, 1702-3....Benjamin, son to John Darling.
- Feb. 14, 1702-3....James, son to Mr. Albert  
Denny.
- March 21, 1702-3....Joseph, son to John Downs.
- March 21, 1703....Eunice, daughter to Samuel  
Hubbel.
- April 11, 1703....Jeremiah, son to Nathan Jen-  
nings.
- April 11, 1703....Abigail, daughter to Obadiah  
Gilbert.
- April 25, 1703....Abigail, daughter to John Ed-  
ward (Mr.).
- April 25, 1703....Sarah, daughter to Thomas  
Williams, Jr.
- May 2, 1703....Daniel, son to McDougall Mac-  
kenzie.
- May 2, 1703....Mary, daughter to Jonathan  
Fanton.
- May 2, 1703....Rachel, daughter to John Bennit.
- May 9, 1703....Elizabeth, daughter of James  
Bennit.
- May 16, 1703....Robert, son of Jno. Middlebrook.
- June 6, 1703....Anne, daughter of Mr. John  
Sloss.
- July 18, 1703....Esther, daughter of Daniel  
Meeker.
- Aug. 15, 1703....Esther, daughter of Samuel Coly.
- Aug. 22, 1703....Mary, daughter of William Mal-  
lery.
- Aug. 29, 1703....Thomas, son to Moses Dimon.
- ✓Sept. 12, 1703....Martha, daughter to Jacob  
Patchin.
- Sept. 19, 1703....Ephraim, son to Francis Bradly.
- Sept. 19, 1703....Hannah, daughter to John  
Bradly.
- Sept. 26, 1703....Nathaniel, son to Nathaniel  
Shaw.
- Oct. 3, 1703....Deborah, daughter to Israel  
Rowland.
- Oct. 30, 1703....Ebenezer, son to John Sturgis.
- Oct. 30, 1703....Mary, daughter to Benjamin  
Rumsy.
- Nov. 28, 1703....Mary, wife to Samuel Coly.
- Dec. 5, 1703....Samuel, son, and Mary, daugh-  
ter, to Samuel Coly.
- Dec. 5, 1703....Hannah, daughter to John  
Thorp, Jr.
- Dec. 26, 1703....Abigail, wife to Samuel Osborn.
- Jan. 2, 1703-4....Samuel, son, and Hannah,  
daughter, to Samuel Osborn.
- Jan. 30, 1703-4....Simon, son to Peter Coly.
- Jan. 30, 1703-4....Daniel, son to George Squire.
- Feb. 6, 1703-4....Sarah, daughter to Thomas  
Morehouse, Jr.
- Feb. 13, 1703-4....Nathan, son to Richard Lyon.
- March 5, 1703-4....Abigail, daughter to John Os-  
born, Jr.
- March 5, 1703-4....Sarah, daughter to John Barlow.
- March 12, 1703-4....Jane, daughter to Joseph Stur-  
gis.
- March 12, 1703-4....Anne, daughter to Joseph Jen-  
nings.
- March 19, 1703-4....Robert Sylleman.
- March 19, 1703-4....Samuel, son to Daniel Addams.
- March 26, 1704....Rebecca, daughter to Samuel  
Smith.
- April 2, 1704....John, son to Theophilus Hull.
- April 9, 1704....Sarah, daughter to John Smith.
- April 16, 1704....Joseph, John and Samuel, sons  
to Samuel Squire.
- April 16, 1704....Sarah, daughter to Samuel  
Squire.
- April 16, 1704....Elizabeth, daughter to Jno.  
Wheeler.
- April 23, 1704....Jemimah, daughter to Martha,  
wife of John Williams.
- April 23, 1704....Elizabeth and Rebecca, daugh-  
ters to John Williams.
- April 16, 1704....Sarah, daughter to John Hide.
- May 7, 1704....Sarah, daughter to John Bar-  
tram.
- May 14, 1704....Joseph, son to Joseph Wakeman.
- May 21, 1704....Stephen and Gershom, sons to  
John Morehouse.
- May 21, 1704....Ruth, daughter to John More-  
house.
- May 21, 1704....Damaris and Eunice, daughters  
to John Staples.
- May 28, 1704....Nathan, son to John Meeker.
- June 11, 1704....Daniel, son to Daniel Bradly.
- June 25, 1704....Samuel, son to Henry Gray.
- June 25, 1704....Ebenezer, son to Mr. John Burr.
- July 16, 1704....James, son to John Bagly.
- Aug. 27, 1704....Solomon, son to Simon Couch.
- Sept. 10, 1704....Joseph, son to John Niccols.
- Sept. 10, 1704....Abigail, daughter to Jonathan  
Sturgis.
- Sept. 24, 1704....Hannah, daughter to Daniel  
Morehouse.
- Oct. 1, 1704....Nathaniel, son to Nathan Ad-  
dams.

- Dec. 3, 1704....David, son to Capt. Nathan Gold.
- Dec. 10, 1704....Deborah, wife to Joseph Middlebrook.
- Dec. 10, 1704....Joseph, son to Daniel Crowfoot.
- Dec. 10, 1704....John, son to John Middlebrook.
- Dec. 10, 1704....David, son to Joseph Middlebrook.
- Jan. 2, 1704-5....Eunice, daughter of Samuel Jennings.
- Jan. 28, 1704-5....Philipp, son of Daniel Burr, Jr.
- Feb. 18, 1704-5....Martha, daughter of Samuel Couch.
- Feb. 18, 1704-5....Peter, son of Henry Hendrick.
- Feb. 18, 1704-5....Anne, daughter of Mr. Dougal Mackenzie.
- March 4, 1704-5....Abigail, daughter of Joseph Webb.
- March 18, 1704-5....Samuel Lyon.
- March 18, 1704-5....John, Samuel and James, sons of Samuel Lyon.
- March 18, 1704-5....Margery, daughter of Samuel Lyon.
- March 18, 1704-5....Ebenezer, son of Moses Dimon.
- April 8, 1705....Rebecca, daughter of Robert Sylleman.
- April 29, 1705....Elizabeth Addams, daughter of Samuel Addams.
- April 29, 1705....Mary, daughter of Obadiah Gilbert.
- May 6, 1705....Gershom, son of Peter Burr (Mr.).
- May 6, 1705....Ephraim, son of George Squire.
- May 13, 1705....Anne, daughter of Samuel Sherwood.
- May 27, 1705....Joseph, Lemuel, Zechariah and Ezekiel, sons of Ezekiel Sandford.
- June 3, 1705....Ephraim, son of James Bennit.
- June 17, 1705....Joseph, son of Mr. John Edwards.
- June 17, 1705....Rebecca, daughter of Ens. Samuel Squire.
- June 24, 1705....Abigail, daughter of Gideon Allen.
- July 15, 1705....Abigail, daughter of Samuel Hubbell.
- Aug. 19, 1705....Mary, daughter of Isaac Jennings.
- Aug. 26, 1705....Elizabeth, Hannah and Eunice, daughters of Thomas Sandford.
- Sept. 2, 1705....Mary, daughter of Matthew Jennings.
- Sept. 16, 1705....Hannah Buncom.
- Sept. 16, 1705....John, son of Capt. John Wakeman.
- Sept. 16, 1705....John, son of John Green.
- Sept. 16, 1705....Hannah, daughter of John Green.
- Sept. 23, 1705....Abraham, son of Abraham Higgins.
- Sept. 30, 1705....Mary, daughter of Joseph Sturgis.
- Oct. 7, 1705....John, son of John Osborn, Jr.
- Nov. 4, 1705....Deborah, daughter of John Bennit.
- Nov. 11, 1705....John, son of Nathaniel Shaw.
- Nov. 11, 1705....Mary, daughter of John Hide.
- Dec. 30, 1705....John, son of Francis Bradly.
- Feb. 3, 1705-6....Jethro, son of Thomas Morehouse, Jr.
- Feb. 3, 1705-6....Sarah and Deborah, daughters of Joseph Bradly.
- Feb. 10, 1705-6....Jabez, son of Theophilus Hull.
- Feb. 17, 1705-6....Gershom, son of Samuel Barlow.
- Feb. 24, 1705-6....John, son of John Williams.
- Feb. 24, 1705-6....Rebecca, daughter of William Mallery.
- March 3, 1705-6....Eleazar, son of John Sturgis.
- March 3, 1705-6....David, son of John Downs.
- March 3, 1705-6....Deborah, daughter of Lieut. John Barlow.
- March 10, 1705-6....Jabez, son of Lieut. Joseph Wakeman.
- March 10, 1705-6....Judith Anne, daughter of Mr. John Wheeler.
- March 17, 1705-6....John, son of Samuel Coly.
- March 17, 1705-6....Ruth, daughter of Thomas Bennit.
- March 24, 1706....Elizabeth, daughter of Peter Coly.
- March 24, 1706....Mary, daughter of John Thorp, Jr.
- March 31, 1706....Elizabeth, daughter of John Morehouse.
- April 7, 1706....David, son of William Hill.
- May 12, 1706....Sarah, daughter of Simon Couch.
- May 12, 1706....Abigail, daughter of Samuel Lyon.
- May 12, 1706....Mary, daughter of Joseph Bradly.
- May 19, 1706....Abigail, daughter of Daniel Bradly.
- June 2, 1706....Judeanne, daughter of Israel Rowland.
- June 9, 1706....Joseph, son of Joseph Smith.
- June 16, 1706....Esther, daughter of Thomas Williams, Jr.
- June 23, 1706....Eunice, daughter of Joseph Middlebrook, Jr.
- June 30, 1706....Samuel, son of Jacob Patchin. ✓
- Aug. 25, 1706....Joseph, son of Obadiah Gilbert.
- Sept. 8, 1706....David, son of Daniel Crowfoot.
- Sept. 15, 1706....Eleanora, daughter of Cornelius Hull.
- Sept. 29, 1706....Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Dougal Mackenzie.
- Oct. 20, 1706....Bethyah, daughter of George Squire.
- Dec. 29, 1706....Daniel, son of Daniel Morehouse.
- Jan. 5, 1706-7....John, son of Jonathan Fanton.
- Jan. 5, 1706-7....Sarah, daughter of Samuel Smith.
- Jan. 26, 1706-7....Joseph, son of Joseph Wheeler.

- Jan. 26, 1706-7....Margery, daughter of John Smith.
- Feb. 16, 1706-7....Sarah, wife of Henry Gray, Jr.
- Feb. 16, 1706-7....Sarah, daughter of Mr. Moses Gilbert.
- Feb. 23, 1706-7....Samuel, son of Mr. Ezekiel Sandford.
- March 2, 1706-7....Eunice, daughter of Samuel Couch.
- March 16, 1706-7....Josiah, son of Joseph Webb.
- March 16, 1706-7....Joseph, son of Samuel Barlow.
- March 16, 1706-7....Phebe, daughter of John Staples.
- March 16, 1706-7....Sarah, daughter of Joseph Whelpley.
- March 16, 1706-7....Rachel, daughter of Gershom Bulky.
- March 23, 1706-7....Abigail, daughter of Robert Turney.
- April 13, 1707....Mary, daughter of John Bagly.
- April 27, 1707....Abigail, daughter of Samuel Osborn.
- May 4, 1707....Bethana.
- May 11, 1707....John, son of Isaac Jennings.
- May 25, 1707....Ebenezer, son of John Meeker.
- May 25, 1707....Jonathan, son of Daniel Meeker.
- May 25, 1707....Benjamin, son of Benjamin Rumsy.
- June 1st, 1707....Nathaniel, son of Mr. Daniel Burr.
- June 1st, 1707....Benjamin, son of Henry Gray, Jr.
- June 15, 1707....Benjamin, son of Ensign Samuel Squire.
- June 15, 1707....Sarah, daughter of Henry Hendrick.
- June 29, 1707....John, son of John Hill.
- June 29, 1707....Noah, son of Benjamin Sherwood.
- June 29, 1707....Daniel, son of Daniel Addams.
- July 27, 1707....Jonathan Sturgis, Jr.
- July 27, 1707....Jonathan, son, and Sarah, daughter, of Jonathan Sturgis, Jr.
- Aug. 3, 1707....John, son of Edward Jessup.
- Aug. 10, 1707....John, son of Jno. Blackman.
- Aug. 17, 1707....Abigail, daughter of Moses Dimon.
- Sept. 14, 1707....Dorothy, daughter of Samuel Jennings.
- Sept. 21, 1707....Ebenezer, son of Robert Sylleman.
- Oct. 4, 1707....Thomas, son of Thomas Sandford.
- Nov. 9, 1707....Martha, daughter of John Blackman.
- Dec. 14, 1707....Sarah, daughter of the Worshipful Mr. Peter Burr.
- Dec. 21, 1707....Jonathan, son of John Osborn, Jr.
- Feb. 8, 1707-8....Martha, daughter of the Worshipful Capt. Nathan Gold.
- Feb. 8, 1707-8....David, son of David Osborn.
- Feb. 15, 1707-8....Olive, daughter of Samuel Hubbel.
- Feb. 22, 1707-8....Eleanor, daughter of Francis Bradly.
- March 14, 1707-8....David, son of Mr. David Burr, Jr.
- March 14, 1707-8....Sarah, daughter of Mr. John Sloss.
- March 14, 1707-8....Hannah, daughter of John Hide.
- April 11, 1708....Sarah, daughter of Mr. Nathaniel Shaw.
- April 11, 1708....Anne, daughter of Joseph Middlebrook.
- April 11, 1708....Ruth, daughter of Mathew Jennings.
- April 18, 1708....Abigail Banks.
- May 2, 1708....David, son of Joseph Bradly.
- May 2, 1708....Benjamin, son of Joseph Smith.
- May 9, 1708....Jane, daughter of George Squire.
- May 16, 1708....Thomas, son of Thomas Morehouse.
- May 16, 1708....Elizabeth, daughter of John Morehouse.
- May 30, 1708....Mary, daughter of Mr. Daniel Burr, of Upper Meadow.
- May 30, 1708....Samuel, son of Thomas Staples.
- May 30, 1708....Eunice, daughter of Daniel Bradly.
- June 1, 1708....Deborah, daughter of Joseph Sturgis.
- June 1, 1708....Jonathan, son of Richard Lyon.
- June 1, 1708....Elizabeth, daughter of John Middlebrook.
- June 27, 1708....John Andrews.
- June 27, 1708....John, son of John Andrews.
- June 27, 1708....Daniel, son of Samuel Sherwood.
- July 11, 1708....Sarah, daughter of William Maltery.
- July 11, 1708....Elizabeth, daughter of Jno. Thorp, Jr.
- July 18, 1708....Abiah, daughter of John Williams.
- July 25, 1708....Andrew, son of Peter Coly.
- Aug. 8, 1708....Mary, daughter of Gideon Allen.
- Aug. 15, 1708....Thomas, son of Joseph Wheeler.
- Aug. 29, 1708....Elizabeth, daughter of John Sturgis.
- Sept. 20, 1708....Samuel, son of Abraham Higgins.
- Sept. 27, 1708....Ephraim, son of Samuel Lyon.
- Oct. 10, 1708....John, son of Mr. Jonathan Fanton.
- Oct. 10, 1708....John, son of Jacob Sterling.
- Oct. 10, 1708....Mary, daughter of Mr. Dougal Mackenzie.
- Oct. 17, 1708....Sarah, daughter of Mr. Nathaniel Sherman of Stratford.
- Oct. 17, 1708....Isabelle, daughter of Simon Couch.
- Dec. 19, 1708....Gershom, son of Samuel Barlow.
- Jan. 23, 1708-9....James, son of Mr. Daniel Burr, Jr.

Jan. 30, 1708-9....	Samuel, son of Capt. Joseph Wakeman.	May 14, 1710....	Deborah, daughter of Simon Couch.
Feb. 27, 1708-9....	William, son of Robert Rumsy, Jr.	May 14, 1710....	Abigail, daughter of John Meeker.
March 20, 1708-9....	David, son of John Smith.	May 14, 1710....	Mary, daughter of Daniel Bradly.
March 27, 1709....	Ephraim, son of Ezekiel Sandford.	May 14, 1710....	Eunice, daughter of John Thorp, Jr.
March 27, 1709....	Gershom, son of Gershom Bulkly.		Cornelius, son of Cornelius Hull.
April.....	Ebenezer, son of Samuel Couch.	July 2, 1710....	Eunice, daughter of the Worshipful Majr. Burr.
May 15, 1709....	Abigail, daughter of Obadiah Gilbert.	July 2, 1710....	James, son of Henry Hendrick.
May 22, 1709....	John, son of Robert Turney.	July 2, 1710....	Thomasin, daughter of Cornelius Bunkum.
May 22, 1709....	William, son of David Osborn.	July 23, 1710....	Mary, daughter of Capt. Joseph Wakeman.
May 22, 1709....	Esther, daughter of Samuel Smith.	July 23, 1710....	Thankful, daughter of Thomas Morehouse, Jr.
May 22, 1709....	Abigail, daughter of Samuel Thorp.	Aug. 6, 1710....	Anne, daughter of Samuel Lyon.
May 29, 1709....	Samuel, son of Daniel Morehouse.	Aug. 20, 1710....	Isaac, son of Daniel Meeker.
June 5, 1709....	George Squire.	Aug. 30, 1710....	Mary, Eleanour, Sarah and Abigail, daughters of Christopher Shaw.
June 5, 1709....	Eunice, daughter of Mr. Jonathan Sturgis.	Oct. 1, 1710....	John, son of Israel Rowland.
June 19, 1709....	Samuel Rowland.	Oct. 1, 1710....	John, son of John Middlebrook.
June 19, 1709....	Grace, daughter of Samuel Rowland.	Oct. 1, 1710....	Ellen, daughter of Mr. John Sloss.
June 26, 1709....	Ebenezer, son of Thomas Ben-nit.	Oct. 8, 1710....	Samuel, son of Mr. Dougal Mackenzie.
July 3, 1709....	Catherine, daughter of Mr. Moses Gilbert.	Oct. 8, 1710....	Ebenezer, son of Sergt. Peter Coly.
July 3, 1709....	Sarah, daughter of John Bagly.	Oct. 8, 1710....	Joseph, son of Jacob Sterling.
July 17, 1709....	Mary and Sarah, daughters of Matthew Smith.		Nathan, son of Christopher Sturgis.
Aug. 1, 1709....	Ruth, daughter of Sergt. Benjamin Rumsy.	Oct. 29, 1710....	Esther, daughter of Joseph Wheeler.
Aug. 1, 1709....	Anne, daughter of Samuel Coly.	Oct. 29, 1710....	Rebecca, daughter of Mr. Daniel Burr of Town.
Aug. 14, 1709....	Abigail, daughter of John Andrews.	Nov. 26, 1710....	Rebecca, daughter of Sergt. Ezekiel Sandford.
Oct. 16, 1709....	Jane, daughter of George Squire.	Nov. 26, 1710....	Deborah, daughter of Thomas Williams, Jr.
Nov. 6, 1709....	Ebenezer, son of Thomas Sandford.	Nov. 26, 1710....	Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph Smith.
Nov. 13, 1709....	Dorothy, daughter of Samuel Jennings.	Dec. 3, 1710....	John, son of Sergt. Gideon Allen.
Nov. 20, 1709....	David, son of Lieut. Moses Dimon.	Dec. 3, 1710....	John, son of William Mallery.
Nov. 27, 1709....	Sarah, daughter of Isaac Grey.	Dec. 7, 1710....	Peter, son of Francis Bradly.
Jan. 1, 1709-10....	David, son of Mr. Daniel Burr of Upper Meadow.	Feb. 5, 1710-11....	Elnathan, son of John Sturgis.
Jan. 1, 1709-10....	Gershom, son of John Blackman.	Feb. 8, 1710-11....	Abigail, daughter of Joseph Perry.
Jan. 22, 1709-10....	Samuel, son of Samuel Barlow.	March 4, 1710-11....	Abigail, daughter of Robert Rumsy, Jr.
Feb. 5, 1709-10....	Benjamin, son of Joseph Sturgis.	March 18, 1710-11....	Nathan, son of Samuel Jennings.
March 12, 1709-10....	Gershom, son of Joseph Jennings.	April 8, 1711....	Joseph, son of Joseph Bradly.
March 12, 1709-10....	Mary, daughter of John Downs.	April 8, 1711....	Eleanour, daughter of Samuel Smith.
March 12, 1709-10....	Hannah, daughter of James Ben-nit.	May 13, 1711....	Mary, daughter of John Williams.
March 19, 1709-10....	James, son of John Morehouse.	May 27, 1711....	Josiah, son of Isaac Jennings.
April 2, 1710....	Rachel, wife of John Hide.	May 27, 1711....	Grace, daughter of Gershom Bulkly.
April 2, 1710....	Joseph, son of John Hide.		
April 9, 1710....	Thomas Chambers.	June, 1711....	Deborah, daughter of Robert Turney, Sr.
April 9, 1710....	Martha, daughter of Abraham Higgins.		



- June, 1711....Sarah, daughter of David Osborn.
- June, 1711....Sarah, daughter of Daniel Adams.
- July 1, 1711....Samuel, son of Samuel Rowland.
- July 15, 1711....Anne, daughter of Sergt. Samuel Osborn.
- July 15, 1711....Sarah, daughter of Moses Ward.
- July 22, 1711....Elizabeth, daughter of Capt. Couch.
- Aug. 12, 1711....Benjamin, son, and Margery, daughter of John Niccols.
- Aug. 12, 1711....Sarah, daughter of Benjamin Sherwood.
- Aug. 20, 1711....Margaret, daughter of Mr. Moses Gilbert.
- Aug. 20, 1711....Anne, daughter of John Bagly.
- Sept. 2, 1711....David, son of Samuel Hubbel.
- Oct. 21, 1711....Joseph, son of the Honorable Nathan Gold.
- Oct. 21, 1711....Thomas, son of Mr. Nathaniel Shaw.
- Oct. 28, 1711....Daniel, son of Sergt. Samuel Barlow.
- Nov. 14, 1711....Charles, son of Nathan Lewis.
- Nov. 14, 1711....Eleanour, daughter of John Andrews.
- Dec. 16, 1711....Samuel, son of Samuel Thorp.
- Jan. 13, 1711-12....Abigail, daughter of Joseph Jennings, Jr.
- Feb. 17, 1711-12....Mary, daughter of Lieut. John Osborn.
- Feb. 24, 1711-12....David, son of Thomas Sandford.
- Feb. 24, 1711-12....Rebecca, daughter of Sergt. Daniel Morehouse.
- March 2, 1711-12....Joseph, son of Joseph Beers.
- March 9, 1711-12....Joseph, son of Joseph Bulkly, Jr.
- March 9, 1711-12....David, son of Peter Bulkly, Jr.
- March 9, 1711-12....Sarah, daughter of Obadiah Gilbert.
- March 9, 1711-12....Sarah, daughter of John Thorp, Jr.
- April 13, 1712....Joseph Banks.
- April 13, 1712....Elizabeth, wife of John Smith, Jr.
- April 13, 1712....Nathan, son of Isaac Grey.
- April 20, 1712....Gershom, son of Nathaniel Whitehead.
- April 27, 1712....Abijah, son of John Morehouse.
- April 27, 1712....Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Grey, Jr.
- May 4, 1712....Ebenezer, son of Sergt. Peter Coly.
- May 4, 1712....Phebe, daughter of John Bennit.
- May 4, 1712....Mary, daughter of Daniel Knap.
- May 11, 1712....James, son of Daniel Bradly.
- May 11, 1712....Rebecca, daughter of Jno. Blackman.
- May 25, 1712....Samuel Bradly and Phebe Bradly, his wife.
- May 25, 1712....Deborah and Anne, daughters of Samuel Bradly.
- May 25, 1712....Sarah, daughter of John Winton.
- June 1, 1712....Joshua Jennings, Sr.
- June 1, 1712....Abigail, daughter of George Hull.
- June 8, 1712....Elnathan, son of Samuel Lyon, Jr.
- June 15, 1712....Dorothy and Sarah, daughters of George Wood.
- June 15, 1712....Esther, daughter of Joseph Perry.
- July 13, 1712....Samuel, son of James Bennit.
- Aug. 10, 1712....Stephen, son of Thomas Morehouse, Jr.
- Aug. 24, 1712....Damaris, daughter of Capt. Moses Dimon.
- Aug. 24, 1712....Sarah, daughter of Moses Knap.
- Oct. 5, 1712....Joseph, son of Christopher Sturgis.
- Oct. 19, 1712....Stephen, son of Jacob Sterling.
- Oct. 26, 1712....Mary, daughter of Robert Turney.
- Nov. 23, 1712....Sarah, daughter of Luke Guire.
- Nov. 23, 1712....Michael, son of Jonathan Middlebrook.
- Dec. 7, 1712....Gershom, son of Francis Bradly.
- Dec. 7, 1712....Charles, son of Nathan Lewis.
- Dec. 14, 1712....Sarah, daughter of Peter Bulkly, Jr.
- Dec. 1712....Benjamin, son of Sergt. John Seely.
- Jan. 4, 1712-13....Joseph and Thomas, sons of Thomas Nash.
- Jan. 4, 1712-13....Sarah, daughter of Thomas Nash.
- Jan. 14, 1712-13....Joseph, son of Richard Hollingsworth.
- Jan. 11, 1712-13....David and Jonathan, sons of Ensign Gideon Allen.
- Jan. 18, 1712-13....David Addams.
- Feb. 1, 1712-13....John, son of Mr. Daniel Burr of Town.
- Feb. 8, 1712-13....Samuel, son of John Smith, Jr.
- Feb. 8, 1712-13....Catherine, daughter of Joseph Wheeler.
- Feb. 8, 1712-13....Sarah, daughter of Joseph Middlebrook.
- March 1, 1712-13....Mary, daughter of John Middlebrook.
- March 15, 1712-13....David, son of Moses Knap.
- March 15, 1712-13....Sarah, daughter of Edward Jessup.
- March 22, 1712-13....Deborah, daughter of Mr. John Sloss.
- April 5, 1713....Jemimah, daughter of Samuel Lyon.
- April 19, 1713....Samuel, son of Sergt. Jno. Smith.
- April 19, 1713....Joseph, son of Joseph Banks.
- May 17, 1713....Jerusha, daughter of Robert Turney.
- May 17, 1713....Annah, daughter of William Mallory.

May 24, 1713....	Solomon, son of Capt. Samuel Couch.
July 5, 1713....	Esther, Silenne and Thankfull, daughters of John Gruman.
July 5, 1713....	John, son of John Gruman.
July 12, 1713....	Mary, daughter of George Hull.
Sept. 13, 1713....	Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Rumsy.
Sept. 20, 1713....	Benjamin, son of Samuel Jennings.
Sept. 20, 1713....	Joseph, son of Joseph Perry.
Sept. 27, 1713....	Jonathan, son of Jonathan Squire, Jr.
Oct. 18, 1713....	Nathan, son of Joseph Bradly.
Nov. 1, 1713....	Samuel, son of Capt. Joseph Wakeman.
Nov. 1, 1713....	Samuel, son of Joseph Smith.
Nov. 8, 1713....	John, son of David Osborn.
Nov. 15, 1713....	Samuel, son of Samuel Bradly.
Nov. 15, 1713....	Mehitabel, daughter of Benajah Strong.
Nov. 20, 1713....	Hezekiah, son of Gershom Bulkly.
Nov. 29, 1713....	Sarah, daughter of Sergt. Samuel Osborn.
Nov. 29, 1713....	Sarah, daughter of Peter Bulkly.
Dec. 20, 1713....	Esther, daughter of Joseph Bulkly, Jr.
Dec. 27, 1713....	Mary, daughter of Lieut. John Wheeler.
Feb. 7, 1713-14....	Benjamin, Thomas and Gershom, sons of Benjamin Banks.
Feb. 14, 1713-14....	Stephen, son of Joseph Jennings, Jr.
March 7, 1713-14....	Abigail, daughter of David Addams.
March 21, 1713-14....	Ebenezer, son of Edward Jessup.
March 28, 1714....	Moses, son of Mr. Daniel Burr, Jr.
March 28, 1714....	Sarah, daughter of Samuel Hull.
April 4, 1714....	Hannah, daughter of John Winton.
May 2, 1714....	Rachel, daughter of John Hide.
May 2, 1714....	Mary, daughter of Thomas Sandford.
May 9, 1714....	Jonathan, son of Jonathan Middlebrook.
May 23, 1714....	Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Turney, Jr.
May 30, 1714....	Joseph Grey, now of Newtown.
May 30, 1714....	Joseph, son, and Mary and Sarah, daughters, of Joseph Grey.
May 30, 1714....	Samuel, son of Samuel Hubbel.
May 30, 1714....	Eunice, daughter of Thomas Williams, Jr.
June 13, 1714....	Daniel, son of John Andrews.
June 13, 1714....	Deborah and Rebecca, daughters of Isaac Grey.
June 20, 1714....	Samuel, son of Moses Ward.
June 20, 1714....	John, son of Daniel Knap.
June 20, 1714....	Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel Barlow.
July 4, 1714....	John Addams.
July 4, 1714....	David, son of Ensign Gideon Allen.
July 4, 1714....	David, son of Samuel Thorp.
July 11, 1714....	Elizabeth, daughter of John Hoile.
Aug., 1714....	Elizabeth, wife of Samuel Davis.
Aug. 29, 1714....	Abigail, daughter of Sergt. Ezekiel Sandford.
Aug. 29, 1714....	Catherine, daughter of Sergt. Daniel Morehouse.
Sept. 5, 1714....	Jabez, son of Samuel Davis.
Sept. 5, 1714....	Experience, Anne and Damaris, daughters of Samuel Davis.
Sept. 12, 1714....	Nathaniel, son of John Downs.
Sept. 19, 1714....	John, son of John Morehouse.
Oct. 24, 1714....	Mary, daughter of Jacob Sterling.
Oct. 31, 1714....	Damaris, daughter of Capt. Moses Dimon.
Oct. 31, 1714....	David, son of Isaac Jennings.
Oct. 31, 1714....	Peter, son of Peter Bennit.
Oct. 31, 1714....	John, son of Gideon Allen of Compo.
Nov. 21, 1714....	David, son of Samuel Rowland.
Nov. 21, 1714....	Mary, daughter of Nathan Lewis.
Dec. 26, 1714....	Abigail, daughter, and Moses, son of Joshua Jennings.
Jan. 9, 1714-15....	Sarah, daughter of Joseph Beers.
Jan. 9, 1714-15....	Jane, daughter of Isaac Hall.
Jan. 23, 1714-15....	Nathan, son of John Thorp, Jr.
Feb. 6, 1714-15....	John, son of Lieut. John Osborn.
March 6, 1714-15....	Martha, daughter of Henry Grey.
March 13, 1714-15....	David, son of Sergt. Peter Coly.
March 13, 1714-15....	Arabella, daughter of George Wood.
April 10, 1715....	Johanna, daughter of Benjamin Banks.
May, 1715....	Jonathan, son of Moses Knap.
June 5, 1715....	David, son of John Middlebrook.
June 26, 1715....	Abraham, son of James Bennit.
July 10, 1715....	Robert, son of Nathaniel Wilson, Jr.
July 24, 1715....	Abraham, son of Abraham Higgins.
Aug. 7, 1715....	Jonathan, son of Joseph Grey of Newtown.
Aug. 7, 1715....	Andrew, son of John Beardsley of Stratfield.
Aug. 14, 1715....	Zachariah, son of Jonathan Squire, Jr.
Sept. 4, 1715....	Abigail, daughter of Capt. Samuel Couch.
Sept. 4, 1715....	Jonathan, son of Lieut. Thomas Nash.
Sept. 4, 1715....	Christopher, son of Christopher Sturgis.

- Sept. 4, 1715....Hannah, daughter of Thomas Morehouse, Jr.  
 Oct. 2, 1715....Obed, son of Samuel Henry.  
 Oct. 2, 1715....Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel Henry.  
 Oct. 2, 1715....John Smith, Jr.  
 Oct. 9, 1715....Joseph, son of George Hull.  
 Oct. 9, 1715....Peter, son of Peter Bulkly.  
 Nov. 6, 1715....Dorothy, daughter of Joseph Middlebrook.  
 Dec. 11, 1715....Eunice, daughter of John Winton.  
 Jan. 8, 1715-16....Sarah, daughter of Joseph Squire.  
 Jan. 29, 1715-16....Daniel, son of Joseph Perry.  
 Jan. 29, 1715-16....Eleazar, son of David Osborn.  
 Feb. 5, 1715-16....Peter, son of Gershom Bulkly.  
 Feb. 12, 1715-16....Anne, daughter of David Addams.  
 Feb. 12, 1715-16....Lydia, daughter of Samuel Davis.  
 Feb. 19, 1715-16....Mary, daughter of Samuel Lyon, Jr.  
 March 4, 1715-16....Aaron, son of Daniel Burr (Mr.) of Upper Meadow.  
 March 11, 1715-16....Benjamin, son of Samuel Bradly.  
 March 11, 1715-16....Sarah, daughter of Joseph Banks.  
 April 1, 1716....Rebecca, daughter of Moses Ward.  
 April 15, 1716....Obadiah, son of Lieut. Jno. Wheeler.  
 April 15, 1716....Ephraim, son of Joseph Wheeler.  
 April 15, 1716....Rachel, daughter of Robert Rumsy.  
 April 22, 1716....William, son of William Mallery.  
 June 3, 1716....Israel, son of Israel Honeywell of Westchester.  
 June 24, 1716....David, son of Joseph Smith.  
 June 24, 1716....Zechariah, son of Nathaniel Lyon.  
 July 15, 1716....Joseph, son of Joseph Jennings, Jr.  
 Aug. 5, 1716....Abigail, daughter of Sergt. Samuel Barlow.  
 Sept. 2, 1716....Daniel, son of Daniel Knap.  
 Sept. 16, 1716....Peter Sturgis and Hannah, his wife.  
 Sept. 16, 1716....Mary, wife of Mr. Daniel Burr of Town.  
 Sept. 16, 1716....Samuel and Jonathan, sons of Peter Sturgis.  
 Sept. 16, 1716....Hannah, daughter of Peter Sturgis.  
 Sept. 16, 1716....Eunice, daughter of William Lyon.  
 Sept. 16, 1716....Hannah, daughter of Abraham Adams.  
 Sept. 23, 1716....Hannah, daughter of Mr. John Gold.  
 Sept. 30, 1716....Robert, son of Robert Sylleman.  
 Aug. 28, 1716....Ephraim, son of John Morehouse.  
 Nov. 4, 1716....Albert, son of Mr. John Denny.  
 Nov. 11, 1716....Sarah, daughter of Thomas Sandford.  
 Nov. 18, 1716....Hannah, daughter of Ensign Gideon Allen.  
 Jan. 20, 1716-17....David, son of Henry Hendrick.  
 Jan. 20, 1716-17....Abigail, daughter of Joseph Squire.  
 Feb. 17, 1716-17....Mary, daughter of Capt. John Osborn.  
 March 3, 1716-17....Martha, daughter of Jonathan Middlebrook.  
 March 10, 1716-17....Stephen, son of Capt. John Wakeman.  
 March 31, 1716-17....John, son of Robert Turney, Jr., of Town.  
 April 21, 1717....Margaret, daughter of Obadiah Gilbert.  
 May 12, 1717....John, son of John Jennings.  
 May 26, 1717....Samuel, son of Jacob Sterling.  
 June 2, 1717....Elizabeth, daughter of Daniel Addams.  
 June 2, 1717....Catherine, daughter of William Hill.  
 June 9, 1717....David, son of Joseph Beers.  
 June 9, 1717....John, son of Nathaniel Wilson, Jr.  
 June 9, 1717....Jenny, negro girl belonging to the Honorable Nathan Gold, Esq., D. G.  
 June 30, 1717....Jonathan, son of Sergt. Peter Coly.  
 Aug. 4, 1717....Moses, son of Benjamin Gilbert.  
 Aug. 4, 1717....Elizabeth, daughter of Benjamin Gruman.  
 Sept. 1, 1717....Elnathan, son of Sergt. Ezekiel Sandford.  
 Sept. 1, 1717....Mary, negro maid-servant of Mr. Daniel Burr of Upper Meadow.  
 Sept. 8, 1717....Rebecca, daughter of Moses Knap.  
 Sept. 29, 1717....Mary, daughter of John Winton.  
 Oct. 6, 1717....Andrew, son of Peter Bulkly, Jr.  
 Nov. 3, 1717....Dorothy, daughter of David Osborn.  
 Nov. 10, 1717....Daniel, son of Mr. Joseph Goreham.  
 Nov. 17, 1717....Stephen, son of Ebenezer Lyon.  
 Nov. 17, 1717....Dorothy, daughter of Joseph Middlebrook.  
 Dec. 1, 1717....Mary, daughter of Mr. John Denny and Mrs. Mary Denny, his wife.  
 Dec. 1, 1717....Gershom, son of Samuel Thorp.  
 Dec. 15, 1717....John, son, and Hannah, daughter, of Samuel Whitlock.  
 Jan. 12, 1717-18....Sarah, daughter of Moses Ward.  
 Jan. 19, 1717-18....Nathan, son of Joseph Bulkly, Jr.

- Feb. 2, 1717-18....Stephen, son of John Middlebrook.
- Feb. 9, 1717-18....Sarah, daughter of Nathaniel Hull.
- March 2, 1717-18....John, son of Benjamin Banks.
- March 16, 1717-18....Nathaniel, son of Joseph Perry.
- March 16, 1717-18....Phebe, daughter of Samuel Bradly.
- March 16, 1717-18....Naomi, daughter of John Thorp, Jr.
- March 23, 1717-18....Sarah, daughter of John Sylleman.
- April 20, 1718....Thomas, son of Thomas Bagly.
- April 27, 1718....Daniel, son of Mr. Samuel Gold.
- April 27, 1718....Samuel, son of William Hill, Jr.
- April 27, 1718....Ebenezer, son of Luke Guire.
- May 18, 1718....Jonathan, son of Gershom Bulkly.
- May 18, 1718....Joseph, son of Joseph Squire.
- May 25, 1718....David, son of Joseph Banks.
- June 1, 1718....Sarah, daughter of Mr. John Gold.
- June 1, 1718....Olive, daughter of Samuel Davis.
- June 8, 1718....Samuel, son of James Beers.
- June 15, 1718....Daniel, son of Daniel Bulkly.
- July 20, 1718....Caleb, son of Samuel Lyon, Jr.
- July 20, 1718....Nehemiah, son of John Jennings.
- Aug. 10, 1718....Daniel, son of Lieut. John Wheeler.
- Aug. 10, 1718....Sarah, daughter of Solomon Foot.
- Aug. 24, 1718....Ruth, daughter of Robert Sylleman.
- Sept. 14, 1718....Hannah, daughter of Solomon Foot.
- Sept. 28, 1718....Joseph, son of Robert Rumsy.
- Oct. 19, 1718....Susannah, wife of Sergt. Samuel Lyon.
- Oct. 19, 1718....Mary, wife of Samuel Lyon, his son.
- Oct. 19, 1718....Daniel, son of David Meeker.
- Nov. 2, 1718....Anne, daughter of John Morehouse.
- Nov. 2, 1718....Mary, daughter of Samuel Barlow.
- Nov. 30, 1718....Peter, son of Peter Mallery.
- Nov. 30, 1718....Eleanour, daughter of Ebenezer Lyon.
- Nov. 30, 1718....Ebenezer Lyon, son of John Squire.
- Jan. 11, 1718-19....Martha, daughter of Jonathan Middlebrook.
- Jan. 25, 1718-19....Tabitha, daughter of Thomas Sandford.
- Feb. 6, 1718-19....Daniel, son of Peter Sturgis.
- Feb. 8, 1718-19....David, son of David Addams.
- March 1, 1718-19....David, son of Ensign Samuel Barlow.
- March 1, 1718-19....Abigail, daughter of Daniel Knap.
- March 8, 1718-19....David, son of Mr. Daniel Burr of Town.
- March 8, 1718-19....Nehemiah, son of David Sturgis.
- March 22, 1718-19....Jabez, son of Mr. Joseph Goreham.
- March 22, 1718-19....Abigail, daughter of Joseph Smith.
- April 5, 1719....Sarah, daughter of Lemuel Price.
- April 26, 1719....Abigail, daughter of Benjamin Hill.
- May 3, 1719....Joseph, son of Thomas Whitlock.
- 1719....Samuel, son of Joseph Perry.
- June 21, 1719....Benjamin, son of Joseph Jennings.
- June 21, 1719....Abigail, daughter of Benjamin Gilbert.
- June 28, 1719....Moses, son of Moses Knap.
- June 28, 1719....Ruth, daughter of Sergt. Ezekiel Sandford.
- June 28, 1719....Sarah, daughter of John Bartram, Jr.
- June 28, 1719....Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph Osborn.
- July 19, 1719....Daniel, son of John Smith.
- Sept. 6, 1719....Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Williams, Jr.
- Sept. 20, 1719....Elizabeth, daughter of Nathaniel Hull.
- Nov. 1, 1719....Eunice, daughter of David Wheeler.
- Nov. 1, 1719....Anne, daughter of Jno. Silleman.
- Nov. 8, 1719....Hester, daughter of Mr. Samuel Gold.
- Nov. 8, 1719....Jabez, son of Samuel Barlow, Jr.
- Nov. 22, 1719....Joseph, son of Joseph Bulkly.
- Nov. 22, 1719....Daniel, son of Daniel Lyon.
- Nov. 22, 1719....Sarah, daughter of Samuel Lyon, son of Sergt. Samuel Lyon.
- Nov. 29, 1719....Daniel, son of Thomas Murwin, Jr.
- Dec. 20, 1719....Elizabeth, wife of Michael Jennings.
- Dec. 20, 1719....Hannah, daughter of Michael Jennings.
- Dec. 20, 1719-20....Esther, daughter of Moses Ward.
- Dec. 20, 1719-20....Nathan, son of Mr. David Thorp.
- Feb. 14, 1719-20....Anne, daughter of Sergt. Andrew Burr.
- Feb. 28, 1719-20....Andrew, son of John Winton.
- Feb. 28, 1719-20....Jabez, son of Daniel Bulkly.
- Feb. 28, 1719-20....Johanna, daughter of Luke Guire.
- Feb. 28, 1719-20....Anne, daughter of William Hill, Jr.
- March 6, 1719-20....Joseph, son of Joseph Middlebrook.
- March 6, 1719-20....Elizabeth, daughter of David Sturgis.



- May 1, 1720....Sarah, daughter of David Meeker.
- May 1, 1720....Ruth, daughter of Nathaniel Wilson, Jr.
- May 8, 1720....Lemuel and Samuel, sons of Lemuel Price.
- May 22, 1720....Mary, daughter of Francis Bradly.
- May 29, 1720....John, son of Mr. John Gold.
- June 5, 1720....Abigail, daughter of Mr. Thomas Hill.
- June 5, 1720....Sarah, daughter of Samuel Whitlock.
- June 26, 1720....Thaddeus, son of Mr. Thomas Hill.
- June 26, 1720....David, son of Jno. Squire.
- July 10, 1720....David Williams.
- July 10, 1720....Hannah, daughter of Matthew Jennings.
- Aug. 21, 1720....Ebenezer, son of John Gruman.
- Aug. 28, 1720....Ephraim, son of John Middlebrook.
- Aug. 28, 1720....Obedience, daughter of Michael Jennings.
- Sept. 11, 1720....Ebenezer, son of John Thorp.
- Sept. 11, 1720....Sarah, daughter of David Williams.
- Sept. 18, 1720....Grizzel, daughter of Mr. John Dennie.
- Oct. 9, 1720....Mindwell, daughter of Joseph Banks.
- Oct. 16, 1720....Ebenezer, son of Jonathan Middlebrook.
- Jan. 15, 1720-21....Lockwood, son of Joseph Goreham.
- Jan. 1, 1720-21....Sarah, daughter of Daniel Lyon.
- Jan. 15, 1720-21....Thomas, son of John Green.
- Jan. 22, 1720-21....Zechariah, son of John Jennings.
- Jan. 22, 1720-21....Tabitha, daughter of William Lyon.
- Feb. 5, 1720-21....Hannah, daughter of Sergt. David Osborn.
- Feb. 5, 1720-21....Nathan, son of Joseph Osborn.
- Feb. 12, 1720-21....Grace, daughter of Gershom Bulkly.
- Feb. 26, 1720-21....Lydia, daughter of Theophilus Hull.
- March 5, 1720-21....Elizabeth, daughter of David and Mary Sturgis.
- March 12, 1720-21....David, son of David Meeker.
- March 19, 1720-21....Daniel, son of David Tompson (Mr.).
- May 14, 1721....George, son of Lieut. Allen.
- May 14, 1721....Ebenezer, son of William Malery.
- May 14, 1721....Sarah, daughter of Samuel Davis.
- May 28, 1721....Seth, son of Joseph Wheeler.
- May 28, 1721....Stephen, son of Robert Turney, Jr.
- June 4, 1721....Abigail, daughter of George Hull.
- June 4, 1721....Hannah, daughter of Samuel Lyon, Jr.
- June 11, 1721....Anne, daughter of Samuel Thorp.
- June 18, 1721....Mary, daughter of Sergt. Peter Coly.
- July 2, 1721....Martha, daughter of Daniel Bulkly.
- July 2, 1721....Sarah, daughter of Benjamin Gilbert.
- July 16, 1721....Esther, daughter of Nathaniel Hall.
- July 31, 1721....Mary, daughter of Mr. Daniel Burr of Town.
- Aug. 13, 1721....Gershom, son of Peter Bulkly.
- Aug. 20, 1721....Mary, daughter of Capt. John Osborn.
- Aug. 20, 1721....Anne, daughter of Daniel Knap.
- Oct. 8, 1721....Anne, daughter of Ensign Samuel Barlow.
- Oct. 8, 1721....Anne, daughter of Robert Rumsy.
- Oct. 8, 1721....Abigail, daughter of Joseph Jennings, Jr.
- Oct. 8, 1721....Jehiel, son of John Smith.
- Oct. 29, 1721....Michael, son of Joseph Perry.
- Oct. 29, 1721....Thomas, son of Israel Rowland.
- Oct. 29, 1721....Mary, daughter of Solomon Foot.
- Nov. 5, 1721....Abigail, daughter of John Sylleman.
- Dec. 17, 1721....Abigail, daughter of Moses Ward.
- Dec. 31, 1721....Jeremiah, son of Jeremiah Sturgis.
- Jan. 21, 1721-22....Sarah, daughter of Thomas Handford.
- Jan. 28, 1721-22....Abigail, daughter of Joseph Beers.
- Feb. 18, 1721-22....Temperance, daughter of David Wheeler.
- Feb. 25, 1721-22....Joseph, son of Joseph Goreham.
- March 4, 1721-22....Deborah, daughter of John Winton.
- March 25, 1722....Mary, daughter of William Hill, Jr.
- April 1, 1722....Hannah Grey, daughter of Jacob Grey.
- April 15, 1722....Jabez, son of Lieut. Jno. Wheeler.
- April 29, 1722....Nehemiah, son of Mr. Thomas Edwards.
- April 29, 1722....Mary, daughter of Benjamin Banks.
- May 6, 1722....Thaddeus, son of David Williams.
- May 27, 1722....Nehemiah, son of Joseph Banks.
- June 3, 1722....Nathan, son of Lemuel Brice.
- June 3, 1722....Esther, daughter of Jeremiah Sturgis.
- July 1, 1722....Benjamin, son of John Squire.
- July 1, 1722....Alexis, son of George Wood.

July 8, 1722....	David, son of Sergt. Andrew Burr.	Oct. 20, 1723....	Lydia, daughter of William Mallory.
July 15, 1722....	Mary Rowlandson and Elizabeth Rowlandson.	Nov. 10, 1723....	Benjamin, son of Joseph Jennings, Jr.
July 29, 1722....	Samuel, son of Samuel Whitlock.	Nov. 10, 1723....	Mary, daughter of David Meeker.
Aug. 5, 1722....	Grace, daughter of Thomas Williams, Jr.	Nov. 24, 1723....	Grizzel, daughter of Jonathan Mallory.
Aug. 26, 1722....	Rebecca, daughter of Samuel Lyon, son of Sergeant Samuel Lyon.	Dec. 1, 1723....	Ebenezer, son of Francis Bradly.
Oct. 7, 1722....	Jane, daughter of Moses Dimon, Jr.	Dec. 22, 1723....	Moses, son of Moses Ward.
Oct. 7, 1722....	Joseph, son of Joseph Crane.	Dec. 22, 1723....	Daniel, son of Robert Rumsey.
Nov. 4, 1722....	John, son of Thomas Murwin, Jr.	Dec. 22, 1723....	Jane, daughter of Peter Burr, Jr.
Nov. 11, 1722....	James, son of Jno. Morehouse.	Jan. 12, 1723-4....	Sarah, daughter of Jeremiah Sturgis.
Nov. 11, 1722....	Ebenezer, son of Ebenezer Lyon.	Jan. 12, 1723-4....	Abigail, daughter of Solomon Foot.
Nov. 11, 1722....	Mary, daughter of Thomas Hill.	Feb. 2, 1723-4....	Nathan, son of Mr. John Gold.
Nov. 18, 1722....	Thaddeus, son of John Gilbert.	Feb. 2, 1723-4....	James, son of Mr. Isaac Freeman.
Dec. 2, 1722....	Mary, daughter of James Beers.	Feb. 2, 1723-4....	Rebecca, daughter of Mr. Isaac Freeman.
Jan. 6, 1722-23....	William Northrup.	Feb. 23, 1723-4....	Mary, daughter of Mr. John Silleman.
Jan. 6, 1722-23....	Daniel, son of Robert Silleman, Jr.	March 8, 1723-4....	Grace, daughter of Peter Sturgis.
Jan. 6, 1722-23....	Anne, daughter of William Northrop.	March 15, 1723-4....	Stephen, son of Samuel Lyon, Jr.
Feb. 3, 1722-23....	Howes, son of Capt. John Osborn.	May 24, 1724....	Ebenezer, son of John Gilbert.
Feb. 24, 1722-23....	David, son of Mr. Jabez Gorham.	May 24, 1724....	Grace, daughter of Ensign Samuel Barlow.
April 14, 1723....	Thaddeus, son of George Hull.	May 24, 1724....	Abigail, daughter of Mr. Samuel Gold.
April 14, 1723....	Peter, son of John Thorp.	May 24, 1724....	Sarah, daughter of David Thompson.
April 14, 1723....	Benjamin, son of Benjamin Gilbert.	May 24, 1724....	Deborah, daughter of John Smith.
April 14, 1723....	Eunice, daughter of Daniel Lyon.	June 14, 1724....	Martha, daughter of Daniel Williams.
May 12, 1723....	David, son of Mr. David Thompson.	June 21, 1724....	David, son of Samuel Whitlock.
May 26, 1723....	Nathan, son of Jonathan Middlebrook.	June 21, 1724....	David, son of John Winton.
May 26, 1723....	Abigail, daughter of John Wheeler, Jr. (Mr.).	June 21, 1724....	Hannah, daughter of Joseph Osborn.
June 2, 1723....	Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel Davis.	June 21, 1724....	Johannah, daughter of William Northrop.
June 2, 1723....	Abigail, daughter of Richard Hollingsworth.	July 19, 1724....	Sarah, daughter of Moses Dimon, Jr.
June 16, 1723....	Sarah, daughter of John Jennings.	July 26, 1724....	Andrew, son of Sergt. Andrew Burr.
June 23, 1723....	Phineas, son of William Lyon.	Aug. 2, 1724....	Stephen, son of Nathaniel Hull.
July 14, 1723....	Moses, son of Josiah Gilbert.	Aug. 2, 1724....	Rachel, daughter of Samuel Davis.
Aug. 4, 1723....	Jabez, son of Mr. Peter Bulkly, Sr.	Aug. 9, 1724....	Mary, daughter of Thomas Hill.
Aug. 25, 1723....	Hannah, daughter of Jehu Burr.	Aug. 9, 1724....	Ebenezer, son of Daniel Knap.
Sept. 1, 1723....	Mehitabel, daughter of Sergt. Seth Samuel Burr.	Aug. 16, 1724....	Tamar, daughter of Thomas Sandford.
Sept. 15, 1723....	Shubael, son of Mr. Joseph Gorham.	Aug. 23, 1724....	Talcott, son of Gershom Bulkly.
Sept. 15, 1723....	Daniel, son of Ebenezer Hull.	Oct. 4, 1724....	Rebecca, daughter of Onesimus Gold.
Sept. 23, 1723....	Mary, daughter of Theophilus Hull.	Oct. 18, 1724....	Nehemiah, son of Eleazar Smith.
Oct. 6, 1723....	Jane, daughter of Joseph Middlebrook.	Oct. 25, 1724....	Richard, son of Josiah Gilbert.
Oct. 6, 1723....	Patience, daughter of David Wheeler.		

- Nov. 1, 1724....Martha, wife of Nathan Hubbel.  
 Nov. 1, 1724....Deliverance, daughter of Mr. Jeacocks.  
 Nov. 1, 1724....Nehemiah, son of Joseph Barlow.  
 Nov. 15, 1724....Nehemiah, son of Daniel Bulkly.  
 Nov. 15, 1724....Elizabeth, daughter of Nathan Hubbel.  
 Dec. 13, 1724....Tony, negro servant of Mr. Allen, and also two of his children, named Tamar; ye other Margaret.  
 Jan. 10, 1724-5....Grace, daughter of David Osborn.  
 Jan. 17, 1724-5....Ebenezer, son of Joseph Banks.  
 Jan. 17, 1724-5....Grace, daughter of Stephen Burr.  
 Jan. 31, 1724-5....Ichabod, son of Joseph Goreham.  
 Jan. 31, 1724-5....Jemimah, daughter of Samuel Thorp.  
 Feb. 21, 1724-5....Archibald, son of James Blair.  
 March 7, 1724-5....Sarah, daughter of Jonathan Middlebrook.  
 March 7, 1724-5....Mary, daughter of Mary Sturgis.  
 March 14, 1724-5....John, son of Jno. Wheeler, Jr.  
 March 14, 1724-5....David, son of Eleazer Sturgis.  
 March 28, 1725....Mary, daughter of Mr. Joseph Perry.  
 April 11, 1725....Hester, daughter of Jehu Burr.  
 April 25, 1725....Nathan, son of Nathan Lyon.  
 May 2, 1725....Thankful, daughter of Capt. John Osborn.  
     Sarah, daughter of Mr. John Denny.  
     A son of Jonathan Mallery.  
 June 13, 1725....Abigail Meeker, daughter of David Meeker.  
 June 27, 1725....Ebenezer, son of Mr. Ebenezer Wakeman.  
 July, 1725....Olive, daughter of Peter Bulkly.  
 July, 1725....Benjamin, son of Samuel Osborn, Jr.  
 Aug. 1, 1725....Anne, daughter of John Jennings.  
 Sept. 12, 1725....Benoni, son of Catherine Gilbert.  
 Oct., 1725....Nathaniel, son of Nathaniel Wilson, Jr.  
 Oct., 1725....Jabez, son of Jabez Goreham (Mr.).  
 Oct. 31, 1725....Daniel, son of Mr. Samuel Osborn.  
 Dec. 26, 1725....Silvanus, son of Abraham Morehouse.  
 Dec. 26, 1725....Ellen, daughter of Francis Brady.  
 Jan. 2, 1725-6....Hezekiah, son of Solomon Sturgis.  
 Jan. 9, 1725-6....Peter Thorp.  
 Jan. 9, 1725-6....Edmund, son of Mr. Isaac Freeman.  
 Jan. 9, 1725-6....William, son of Peter Thorp.  
 Jan. 23, 1725-6....Jonathan Beebee.  
 Feb. 6, 1725-6....Seth, son of Sergt. Samuel Burr.  
 Feb. 6, 1725-6....Herodias, daughter of William Northrop.  
 Feb. 20, 1725-6....Joseph Burr.  
 Feb. 25, 1725-6....Hannah, daughter of Sergt. John Squire.  
 Feb. 20, 1725-6....Sarah, daughter of Benjamin Sherwood, Jr.  
 March 6, 1725-6....Ichabod, son of Lieut. Jno. Wheeler.  
 March 6, 1725-6....Samuel, son of Joseph Bulkly.  
 March 13, 1725-6....Nehemiah, son of Joseph Sandford.  
 March 13, 1725-6....Thaddeus, son of Nathan Hubbel.  
 March 20, 1725-6....Sarah, daughter of William Jeacocks.  
 March 27, 1726....Sarah, daughter of James Redfield.  
 April 10, 1726....Robert Rumsy.  
 April 10, 1726....Anne, daughter of Peter Burr.  
 April 24, 1726....Sarah and Abigail, daughters of Joseph Rowland.  
 April 24, 1726....Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. John Gold.  
 May 15, 1726....Sarah, daughter of Peter Sturgis.  
 May 15, 1726....John, son of John Olmstead.  
 May 15, 1726....Abigail, daughter of David Ogden.  
 June 12, 1726....Hannah, daughter of James Beers.  
 June 26, 1726....Thaddeus, son of Thomas Staples.  
 June 26, 1726....Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Andrew Burr.  
 Aug. 20, 1726....Richard Lyon.  
 Sept. 4, 1726....Jonathan and David, sons of Jonathan Beebee.  
 Sept. 4, 1726....Samuel, son, and Hannah, daughter, of Jonathan Beebee.  
     1726....Archibald, son of James Blair.  
 Sept. 25, 1726....Cate, daughter of Mr. Nathan Gold.  
 Oct. 9, 1726....Dorcas, daughter of Mr. Allen's negro man, Tony.  
 Oct. 16, 1726....Hannah, daughter of Peter Bulkly.  
 Oct. 23, 1726....William, son of Mr. John Denny.  
 Nov. 6, 1726....Shubael, son of Mr. Joseph Goreham.  
 Nov. 6, 1726....Seth, son of Mr. Samuel Murwin.  
 Nov. 13, 1726....Joseph, son of Joseph Frost.  
 Dec. 18, 1726....Dorcas, daughter of Mary, negro servant to Mr. Robert Silliman.  
 Jan. 8, 1726-7....Thaddeus, son of Sergt. Samuel Osborn.

Jan. 8, 1726-7....Daniel, son of Stephen Morehouse.	July 21, 1728....Hester, daughter of Sergt. John Dimon.
March 26, 1727....Naomi, daughter of Benjamin Williams.	Sept. 1, 1728....Talcot, son of John Gold.
May 28, 1727....Elizabeth, daughter of Capt. John Osborn.	Sept. 15, 1728....Jonathan, son of Mr. Ledthrop Lewis.
May 28, 1727....David, son of John Winton.	Oct. 13, 1728....David, son of Samuel Murwin.
May 28, 1727....Nathan, son of Nathan Hubbell.	Nov. 10, 1728....James, son of Mr. Isaac Freeman.
June 23, 1727....David, son of David Ogden.	Nov. 17, 1728....Daniel, son of Jonathan Beebee.
July 2, 1727....David, son of David Wheeler.	Nov. 24, 1728....Abigail, daughter of James Redfield.
July 9, 1727....Moses, son of Peter Bulkly.	Dec. 8, 1728....Sarah, daughter of John Osborn.
July 16, 1727....Hester, daughter of John Jennings.	Jan. 5, 1728-9....Elizabeth, daughter of Gershom Morehouse.
July 23, 1727....Ephraim and Robert, sons of widow Abigail Meeker.	Feb. 16, 1728-9....Sarah, daughter of Mr. Thomas Handford.
Aug. 6, 1727....David, son of Mr. David Osborn.	Feb. 23, 1728-9....Zerviah, daughter of Mr. William Jeacocks.
Sept. 17, 1727....Abel, son of Mr. Samuel Gold.	Feb. 23, 1728-9....Sarah, daughter of Mr. Joseph Bulkly.
Sept. 24, 1727....Samuel, son of Seth Samuel Burr.	Feb. 23, 1728-9....Joseph, son of Ebenezer Bartram.
Sept. 24, 1727....Ruth, daughter of Mr. Nathaniel Burr.	March 16, 1728-9....Jabez, son of Daniel Bulkly.
Oct. 15, 1727....Elnathan, son of Joseph Sandford.	March 23, 1729....Andrew, son of Joseph Jennings.
Oct. 22, 1727....Elizabeth, daughter of Jeremiah Jennings.	April 13, 1729....Abigail, daughter of Mr. Peter Bulkly.
Nov. 26, 1727....Abraham, son of Martha Patchin.	April 20, 1729....Sarah, daughter of Mr. Nathaniel Burr.
Dec. 10, 1727....Thomas, son of John Bedient.	May 18, 1729....Jane, daughter of Solomon Sturgis.
Dec. 10, 1727....Mary, daughter of John Bedient.	June 8, 1729....John, son of Lieut. John Wheeler.
Dec. 10, 1727....Jerusha, daughter of Solomon Sturgis.	June 22, 1729....John, son of John Bedient.
Jan. 7, 1727-8....Seth, son of Samuel Osborn, Jr.	July 20, 1729....Gershom, son of Nathan Hubbel.
Feb. 4, 1727-8....Anne, daughter of Mr. Nathan Gold.	Aug. 3, 1729....James, son of Mr. Peter Bulkly.
Feb. 4, 1727-8....Jabez, son of Peter Thorp.	Aug. 3, 1729....Nehemiah, son of John Jennings.
March 10, 1727-8....Ichabod, son of Samuel Sandford.	Aug. 17, 1729....Hannah, daughter of William Hill, Jr.
March 10, 1727-8....Ebenezer, son of Mr. Ephraim Burr.	Sept. 7, 1729....Grizzel, daughter of Mr. Peter Thorp.
March 10, 1727-8....Sarah, daughter of Mr. Joseph Perry.	Sept. 14, 1729....Abigail, daughter of Isaac Jennings (Mr.).
March 17, 1727-8....Sarah, daughter of Stephen Wakeman.	Oct. 5, 1729....Abigail, daughter of Mr. Samuel Osborn.
March 24, 1727-8....Eunice, daughter of Mr. Samuel Osborn.	Nov. 2, 1729....Mary Silleman and Deborah Silleman, daughters of Capt. Osborn's present wife.
March 31, 1728....Hannah, daughter of Robert Rumsy.	Nov. 23, 1729....Hannah, daughter of Abraham Morehouse.
March 31, 1728....Elizabeth, daughter of Jabez Wakeman.	Sept. 30, 1729....Isaac, son of Mr. Joseph Gorham.
April 28, 1728....Abigail, daughter of Mr. Joseph Goreham.	Dec. 21, 1729....Jonathan, son of James Rowland (Mr.).
May 5, 1728....Thomas, son of Mr. John Denny.	Jan. 11, 1729-30....David, son of Mr. James Redfield.
May 12, 1728....John, son of Mr. Jabez Goreham.	Jan. 25, 1729-30....David, son of Mr. Stephen Wakeman.
June 9, 1728....Lucretia, daughter of Mr. Andrew Burr.	Feb. 1, 1729-30....Sarah, daughter of Joshua Jeacock.
June 16, 1728....Elizabeth, daughter of John Squire.	Feb. 8, 1729-30....Eunice, daughter of Mr. Ephraim Burr.
July 7, 1728....James, son of James Beers.	
July 21, 1728....Abigail, daughter of Mr. Peter Sturgis.	



- Feb. 15, 1729-30....Jenny, negro child, belonging to Thomas Murwin, Jr.
- Feb. 22, 1729-30....Phebe, daughter of Mr. Joseph Sandford.
- Feb. 22, 1729-30....Abigail, daughter of Mr. David Ogden.
- April 5, 1730....William, son of Mr. Jabez Wakeman.
- April 19, 1730....Nathan, son of Mr. Robert Rumsy.
- May 24, 1730....Mary, daughter of Andrew Burr, Esq.  
Nathan, son, and Martha, daughter, of Mr. Nathan Gold.
- July 12, 1730....Daniel, son of Mr. Seth Samuel Burr.
- July 12, 1730....Phillis, my negro girl.
- July 26, 1730....David, son of Mr. Isaac Freeman.
- Aug. 9, 1730....Abigail and Lydia, daughters of Mr. Samuel Murwin.
- Aug. 16, 1730....John, son of Mr. John Dimon.
- Aug. 16, 1730....Rebecca, daughter of Mr. Joseph Downs.
- Aug. 23, 1730....Mary, daughter of Mr. Jeremiah Jennings.
- Sept. 13, 1730....Martha, daughter of Capt. John Osborn.
- Sept. 27, 1730....Plymouth and Peggy, negro servants of Mr. Daniel Wilson.
- Oct. 11, 1730....Thomas, son of Mr. John Dennie.
- Oct. 18, 1730....Abraham, son of Mr. Samuel Gold.
- Dec. 6, 1730....Joseph, son of Mr. Edward Budington and Martha, his wife.
- Jan. 10, 1730-1....Ebenezer, son of Mr. Ebenezer Dimon and Mrs. Mary Dimon, his wife.
- Feb. 28, 1730-1....Nathan, son of Mr. John Squire.
- Feb. 28, 1730-1....Eunice, daughter of Solomon Sturgis.
- March 14, 1730-1....Isabel, daughter of Mr. Samuel Osborn.
- April 4, 1731....Abigail, daughter of Mr. James Beers.
- April 4, 1731....Rachel, daughter of Mr. Jonathan Beebe.
- April 25, 1731....Anne, daughter of Mr. Peter Sturgis.
- April 25, 1731....Mary, daughter of Mr. Peter Penfield.
- May 16, 1731....Bethyah, daughter of Mr. Merwine.
- June 6, 1731....Mary, daughter of Mr. John Gold.
- June 6, 1731....Hezekiah, son of Lemuel Sandford.
- June 13, 1731....Dorothy, daughter of Solomon Foot.
- June 27, 1731....Dinah, a negro girl, belonging to Mr. Ebenezer Bartram.
- July 4, 1731....Eunice and Grissel, daughters of Joseph Frost.
- July 4, 1731....Hannah, daughter of Ebenezer Bartram.
- July 4, 1731....Elizabeth, daughter of Ephraim Sandford.
- July 11, 1731....Jenny, negro child of Mr. Joseph Perry's.
- July 18, 1731....Lewis, son of Mr. Zechariah —.
- Aug. 29, 1731....Sturges, son of Mr. Lathrop Lewis.
- Aug. 29, 1731....Dinah, Mr. John Dennie's negro woman.
- Sept. 26, 1731....Ephraim, son of Mr. John Jennings.
- Oct. 17, 1731....Mary, daughter of Mr. Peter Bulkly.
- Oct. 24, 1731....John, son of Mr. David Bartram.
- Nov. 14, 1731....Hannah Burr.
- Nov. 28, 1731....Grace, daughter of Joseph Sherwood.
- Dec. 5, 1731....Ebenezer, son of Mr. Joseph Bulkly.
- Dec. 19, 1731....Peter, son of Mr. Peter Thorp.
- Dec. 26, 1731....Ruth, daughter of Mr. Gershom Morehouse.
- Jan. 2, 1731-2....Seth, son of Isaac Jennings, Jr.
- Jan. 16, 1731-2....Jane, daughter of Mr. James Redfield.
- Jan. 30, 1731-2....Anne, daughter of Mr. Ephraim Burr.
- Feb. 13, 1731-2....Harry, son of Mr. Allen's negro man, Tony.
- Feb. 27, 1731-2....Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. John Bedient.
- March 12, 1731-2....John, son of Andrew Burr, Esq.
- March 12, 1731-2....Hester, daughter of Mr. Joseph Perry.
- April 2, 1732....Sarah, Abigail and Elizabeth, daughters of Mr. Joseph and Mrs. Abigail Wilson.
- April 16, 1732....Thomas, son of Mr. John Dimon.
- April 16, 1732....Daniel, son of Mr. Stephen Wakeman.
- April 16, 1732....Sarah, daughter of Mr. Jabez Wakeman.
- April 30, 1732....Daniel, son of Abraham Morehouse.
- May 14, 1732....Abraham, son of Mr. Samuel Gold.
- May 14, 1732....Gold Sellick, son of Mr. Ebenezer Silliman.
- May 14, 1732....Sarah, daughter of Mr. Isaac Jennings, Sr.
- May 28, 1732....Bettee, daughter of Joshua Jeacock.
- June 18, 1732....Ebenezer, son of Mr. Ebenezer Bartram.
- June 18, 1732....Sarah, daughter of Mr. Thomas Staples, Jr.

July 16, 1732....	John, son of Mr. Joseph Goreham.	May 5, 1734....	Nehemiah, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Burr.
July 16, 1732....	Anne, daughter of Mr. Joseph Wilson.	May 26, 1734....	Ann, daughter of John and Elizabeth Dimon.
July 30, 1732....	James, son of Joseph Smedly.	June 9, 1734....	Mary, daughter of John and Mary Dunking.
Aug. 13, 1732....	Samuel, son of Mr. Samuel Murwin.	July 7, 1734....	Ebenezer, son of Ebenezer and Abigail Silliman.
Sept. 24, 1732....	Nathan, son of Nathaniel and Martha Burr. Jonathan, son of Peter Bulkly. Ebenezer, son of Samuel Burr. James, son of Peter Penfield. Grissel, daughter of Joseph Frost.	July 21, 1734....	Seth, son of Abraham and Elizabeth —.
Feb. 1, 1732-3....	Abigail, daughter of Ebenezer and Mary Dimon.	Aug., 1734....	William, son of Peter and Sarah Thorp.
Feb. 1, 1732-3....	William, son of Edward and Martha Buddington.	Aug., 1734....	Caesar, a negro servant to Mr. John Dennie.
Feb. 1, 1732-3....	Tony, a negro child, son of Tongy, servant to Mr. Gideon Allen.	Aug. 25, 1734....	Sarah, daughter of Thomas and Mary Hill.
April 1, 1733....	Sarah, daughter of Solomon and Abigail Sturgis.	Oct. 20, 1734....	Nathan, son of James and Olive Beers.
April, 1733....	Abigail, daughter of John and Sarah Dennie.	Nov. 3, 1734....	Samuel, son of Joseph and Abigail Wilson.
April 15, 1733....	Joseph, son of Samuel and Hannah Osborn.	Nov. 3, 1734....	Elizabeth, daughter of Toney, Mr. Allen's negro.
May 27, 1733....	Grace, daughter of James and Mary Rowland.	Nov. 19, 1734....	Jeremiah, son of Samuel and Hannah Osborn.
July, 1733....	Mary, daughter of Joseph and Jerusha Bradly.	Nov. 19, 1734....	John, son of James and Jane Smedly.
July 29, 1733....	Hannah, daughter of John and Experience Norris.	Dec. 8, 1734....	Jabez, son of Jabez and Ruth Wakeman.
Aug. 19, 1733....	Moses, son of Isaac and Phebe Jennings.	Dec. 8, 1734....	Samuel, son of Peter and Mary Penfield.
Sept. 16, 1733....	Joshua, son of Jonathan and Hannah Beebee.	Dec. 15, 1734....	Rebecca Jennings.
Oct. 7, 1733....	Hezekiah, son of John and Sarah Jennings.	Dec. 15, 1734....	Elizabeth, daughter of Solomon and Abigail Sturges.
Oct. 7, 1733....	Hezekiah, son of Jeremiah and Elizabeth Jennings.	Dec. 15, 1734....	John, Andrew and Samuel, sons of John and Phebe Hendrick.
Oct. 14, 1733....	Peter, son of Benjamin and Eunice Wynkoop.	Jan. 5, 1734-5....	Jerusha Rowel.
Oct. 21, 1733....	Eliezer, son of Joseph and Sarah Sherwood.	Jan. 26, 1734-5....	Sarah, daughter of John and Phebe Hendrick.
Oct., 1733....	Parrot, a negro child, belonging to Ebenezer Bartram.	Jan. 26, 1734-5....	Nehemiah, son of Edward and Martha Buddington.
Nov. 11, 1733....	Thankful, daughter of Andrew and — Coley.	Feb. 23, 1734-5....	Eunice, daughter of Stephen and Relgna Wakeman.
Nov. 17, 1733....	William, son of James and Jane Smedly.	Feb. 24, 1734-5....	Elizabeth, daughter of Daniel and Hannah Jennings.
Nov. 25, 1733....	Hannah, daughter of David and Mehitabel Bartram.	March 7, 1734-5....	Daniel and Matthew, sons of Daniel and Hannah Jennings.
Dec. 23, 1733....	John, son of James and Mary Redfield.	March 30, 1735....	Job, son of Ebenezer and Elizabeth Bartram.
Dec. 23, 1733....	Isaac, son of Nathaniel and Mary Burr.	April 6, 1735....	Michael and Sarah, children of Daniel and Hannah Jennings.
Feb. 24, 1733-4....	Ellen, daughter of Ephraim and Abigail Burr.	April 6, 1735....	Azariah and Adoniram, sons of John and Mary Bedient.
April 21, 1734....	David, son of John and Damaris Grummons.	April 27, 1735....	Deborah, daughter of Ebenezer and Mary Dimon.
May 6, 1734....	Susanna, daughter of Andrew and Sarah Burr.	May 25, 1735....	David, son of David and Mehitabel Bartram.
		June 29, 1735....	Sarah, daughter of Lothrop and Sarah Lewes.
		July 23, 1735....	Mary, daughter of Samuel and Abigail Murwin.
		Sept. 21, 1735....	Jonathan, son of David and Abigail Ogden.

- Sept. 21, 1735....Katherine, daughter of Benjamin and Eunice Wynkoop.
- Sept. 21, 1735....Margaret, daughter of Abigail Cosier.
- Nov. 21, 1735....Phillis, servant to Nathan Gold.
- Nov. 9, 1735....Seth, son of John and Martha Bulkley.
- Nov. 10, 1735....Isaac, son of David and Sarah Bulkley.
- Nov. 30, 1735....Levi, son of Isaac and Phebe Jennings.
- Dec. 14, 1735....Abel, son of John and Sarah Jennings.
- Dec. 14, 1735....Thomas, son of Thomas and Deborah Staples.
- Dec. 28, 1735....Sarah, daughter of Peter and Sarah Thorp.
- Jan. 4, 1735-6....Joseph, son of Joseph and Sarah Sherwood.
- Jan. 12, 1735-6....Jedediah, son of John and Damaris Grummond.
- Jan. 18, 1735-6....Ellen, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Burr.
- Jan. 25, 1735-6....Deborah Craine and Sarah Craine.
- Jan. 25, 1735-6....James, son of James and Mary Redfield.
- March 14, 1735-6....Ephraim, son of Ephraim and Abigail Burr.
- March 21, 1735-6....Ellen, daughter of Peter and Hannah Sturgis.
- March 21, 1735-6....Ruth, daughter of Jeremiah and Elizabeth Jennings.
- April 11, 1736....Ned, a negro servant to Mr. John Dennie.
- May 9, 1736....Grace, daughter of John and Elizabeth Dimon.
- May 9, 1736....Rebecca, daughter of Nathaniel and Martha Burr.
- May 23, 1736....Reuben, son of Jonathan and Katherine Osborn.
- May 30, 1736....Elizabeth, daughter of Daniel and — Knap.
- July 4, 1736....George, son of Andrew and Sarah Burr.
- July 11, 1736....Elizabeth, daughter of Jonathan and Hannah Bebee.
- July 25, 1736....Mordecai, son of John and Mary Bedient.
- Aug. 8, 1736....Sarah, daughter of John and Experience Norris.
- Aug. 11, 1736....Hester, daughter of John and Hester Hills.
- Sept. 12, 1736....John, son of John and Mary Dunting.
- Oct. 17, 1736....Mary, daughter of Samuel and Hannah Osborn.
- Oct. 17, 1736....Paul, son of David and Mehitable Bartram.
- Oct. 31, 1736....Aurelia, daughter of Ebenezer and Abigail Silliman.
- Oct. 31, 1736....Joseph, son of Abigail Barlow.
- April 3, 1737....Joseph, son of Jabez and Ruth Wakeman.
- April 3, 1737....Esther Whitehead.
- May 8, 1737....Hannah, daughter of Joseph and Deborah Gorham.
- May 22, 1737....Peter, son of John and Phebe Hendrick.
- May 22, 1737....Andrew, son of Samuel and Abigail Rowland.
- May 29, 1737....Floro, a negro child, servant to Samuel Osborn, Jr.
- June 5, 1737....Andrew, son of Deborah Lyon.
- June 26, 1737....Mary, daughter of Ebenezer and Mary Dimon.
- July 3, 1737....Eulalia, daughter of Ebenezer and Elizabeth Bartram.
- July 3, 1737....Abigail, daughter of James and Jane Smedly.
- July 3, 1737....Elizabeth, daughter of Jonathan and Rebecca Middlebrook.
- July 17, 1737....Ann, daughter of Jacob and Ann Caldwell.
- Aug. 14, 1737....John, son of John and Mary Morehouse.
- Aug. 28, 1737....Annie, daughter of David and Sarah Bulkley.
- Sept. 25, 1737....Hannah, daughter of Peter and Sarah Thorp.
- Oct. 16, 1737....Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Burr.
- Oct. 16, 1737....Lucretia, daughter of Isaac and Phebe Jennings.
- Oct. 23, 1737....John, son of Thomas and Deborah Staples.
- Nov. 3, 1737....Hannah, daughter of Peter and Mary Penfield.
- Dec. 11, 1737....Rebecca, daughter of John and Martha Bulkley.
- Jan. 1, 1737-8....Deborah, daughter of James and Deborah Burr.
- Jan. 15, 1737-8....Mordecai, son of John and Mary Bedient.
- March 5, 1737-8....Hezekiah, son of Nathaniel and Mary Burr.
- March 17, 1738....Sarah, daughter of Gershom and Sarah Whitehead.
- April 9, 1738....Ebenezer, son of Joseph and Mary Perry.
- April 23, 1738....Ellen, daughter of Samuel and Hannah Osborn.
- April 23, 1738....James, son of David and Mehitable Bartram.
- May 7, 1738....John Sloss, son of Noah and Ellen Hobart.
- May 7, 1738....Ruth, daughter of Jerusha Rowel.
- May 21, 1738....William, son of Charles and Rachel Lewis.
- May 28, 1738....Ebenezer, son of Ephraim and Abigail Burr.
- May 28, 1738....Margaret, daughter of Hugh and Ann McRaa.

June 4, 1738....	Jonathan, son of Jonathan and Katharine Osborn.	April 29, 1739....	Mary, daughter of Zachariah and Elizabeth Bostwick.
June 4, 1738....	Toby and Zabina, two negro children, servants to Samuel Gold.	May 13, 1739....	Jabez, son of Jabez and Ruth Wakeman.
June 18, 1738....	Jemima, daughter of John and Jemima Gold.	June 17, 1739....	Uriah, son of John and Mary Morehouse.
June 27, 1738....	Tom, a negro child, servant to Mr. Jabez Wakeman.	June 17, 1739....	Ruhamah, daughter of Thomas and Deborah Staples.
July 2, 1738....	Joseph, son of Solomon and Abigail Sturges.	June 24, 1739....	William, son of Ebenezer and Mary Dimon.
July 2, 1738....	Squire, son of Stephen and Rebecca Wakeman.	July 1, 1739....	James, son of James and Jane Smedly.
July 5, 1738....	Mary, daughter of Thomas and Deborah Staples.	Aug. 12, 1739....	Martha, daughter of Samuel and Hannah Osborn.
July 10, 1738....	Josiah, son of Andrew and Sarah Burr.	Aug. 18, 1739....	Sambo, a negro child, servant to Thomas Staples, Jr.
July 16, 1738....	Irene, daughter of Edward and Martha Buddington.	Sept. 9, 1739....	Eben, son of Charles and Rachel Lewis.
Aug. 6, 1738....	Sarah, daughter of Jeremiah and Elizabeth Jennings.	Sept. 30, 1739....	Barnabas, son of Ebenezer and Elizabeth Bartram.
Oct. 8, 1738....	Stephen, son of John and Experience Norris.	Oct. 28, 1739....	Andrew, son of Thomas and Mary Hill.
Oct. 8, 1738....	Grace, daughter of Samuel and Abigail Rowland.	Oct. 28, 1739....	Phebe, daughter of John and Phebe Hendrick.
Nov. 5, 1738....	Elizabeth, daughter of John and Elizabeth Dimon.	Dec. 9, 1739....	Jacob, son of Isaac and Phebe Jennings.
Nov. 12, 1738....	Thomas, son of Samuel and Abigail Murwin.	Dec. 30, 1739....	Mary, daughter of Joseph and Deborah Gorham.
Nov. 12, 1738....	Gershom, son of Daniel and Hannah Jennings.	March 9, 1739-40....	Elizabeth, daughter of Solomon and Abigail Sturges.
Nov. 18, 1738....	Anna, daughter of Abijah and Mary Morehouse.	March 23, 1739-40....	Rebecca, daughter of John and Martha Bulkly.
Jan. 23, 1738-9....	Mary, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Sturges.	April 20, 1740....	Benjamin, son of James and Deborah Burr.
Feb. 4, 1738-9....	Stratten, son of James and Deborah Burr.	May 18, 1740....	Hezekiah, son of Michael and Abiah Middlebrook.
Feb. 4, 1738-9....	Peter, son of Joseph and Sarah Perry.	May 25, 1740....	Sarah, daughter of Peter and Mary Penfield.
March 4, 1738-9....	Ebenezer, son of James and Mary Redfield.	June 15, 1740....	Martha and Mary, daughters of Nathaniel and Martha Burr.
March 4, 1738-9....	Jehiel, son of Joseph and Sarah Sherwood.	June 22, 1740....	Hannah, daughter of Joseph and Abigail Gold.
March 4, 1738-9....	Ellen, daughter of Jonathan and Rebecca Middlebrook.	June 29, 1740....	Aaron, son of Jonathan and Katherine Osborn.
March 18, 1738-9....	Hezekiah, son of Ebenezer and Abigail Silliman.	July 27, 1740....	Andrew, son of Abraham and Elizabeth Morehouse.
March 18, 1738-9....	Stephen, son of John and Thankful Osborn.	July 27, 1740....	Eunice, daughter of John and Mary Bedient.
March 18, 1738-9....	Abigail, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Burr.	Aug. 24, 1740....	Jonathan, son of Samuel and Anne Sturgis.
March 18, 1738-9....	Jabez, son of David and Martha Hubbel.	Sept. 21, 1740....	Jeremiah, son of Jeremiah and Elizabeth Jennings.
March 18, 1739....	Sarah, daughter of David and Martha Hubbel.	Sept. 21, 1740....	Rhode, daughter of Abijah and Mary Morehouse.
April 1, 1739....	Lois, daughter of Abraham and Elizabeth Morehouse.	Oct. 5, 1740....	Eunice, daughter of David and Sarah Bulkley.
April 8, 1739....	Eunice, daughter of Benjamin and Eunice Wynkoop.	Oct. 13, 1740....	Sarah, daughter of David and Sarah Allen.
April 22, 1739....	Eleazar, son of Eleazar and Hannah Osborn.	Nov. 30, 1740....	Eunice, daughter of Abigail Craine.
April 22, 1739....	Sarah, daughter of Joseph and Abigail Gold.	Dec. 14, 1740....	Grace, daughter of Edward and Martha Buddington.



- Jan. 25, 1740-1....Stephen, son of Stephen and Rebecca Wakeman.
- Jan. 25, 1740-1....Isaac, son of David and Mehitabel Bartram.
- Feb. 22, 1740-1....Abigail, daughter of Ephraim and Abigail Burr.
- March 6, 1740-1....Samuel, son of Thomas and Deborah Staples.
- March 15, 1740-1....Walter, son of Andrew and Sarah Burr.
- March 29, 1741....Samuel, son of Samuel and Abigail Osborn.
- April 26, 1741....John Silliman, son of Daniel and Sarah Andrews.
- April 26, 1741....Joseph, son of Joseph and Sarah Perry.
- April 26, 1741....Abigail, daughter of John and Elizabeth Dimon.
- May 3, 1741....Sibyl, daughter of John and Experience Norris.
- May 15, 1741....John, son of John and Esther Hill.
- May 31, 1741....Sarah, daughter of Eleazar and Hannah Osborn.
- June 14, 1741....Daniel Squire.
- July 15, 1741....Rachel, daughter of John and Esther Hill.
- Aug. 9, 1741....Michael, son of Michael and Abiah Middlebrook.
- Aug. 23, 1741....David, son of Ebenezer and Mary Dimon.
- Sept. 3, 1741....Charles, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Burr.
- Sept. 27, 1741....Elizabeth, daughter of Peter and Sarah Bulkley.
- Oct. 4, 1741....Abigail, wife of Samuel Hubbel.
- Oct. 4, 1741....Isaac, son of Samuel Hubbel.
- Oct. 4, 1741....Mary, daughter of Samuel and Abigail Hubbel.
- Oct. 4, 1741....Ann, daughter of David and Sarah Allen.
- Oct. 4, 1741....Mary, daughter of John and Mary Morehouse.
- Oct. 18, 1741....Ellen, daughter of Noah and Ellen Hobart.
- Nov. 1, 1741....Thankfull, daughter of Nathaniel and Mary Perry.
- Nov. 15, 1741....Andrew, son of Samuel and Ann Sturgis.
- Nov. 22, 1741....Gesssel, daughter of Nathaniel and Mary Burr.
- Nov. 22, 1741....Noah, son of James and Deborah Burr.
- Dec. 27, 1741....Aaron, son of David and Martha Hubbel.
- Jan. 17, 1741-2....Sarah, daughter of Charles and Rachel Lewis.
- Jan. 24, 1741-2....Gilead, son of John and Mary Bedient.
- Jan. 31, 1741-2....Rebecca Squire.
- Feb. 12, 1741-2....Aaron, son of Joseph and Deborah Jackson.
- Feb. 21, 1741-2....Samuel Sterling.
- Feb. 21, 1741-2....Lydia, daughter of Peter and Mary Penfield.
- Feb. 21, 1741-2....Nathan, son of John and Esther Hill.
- Feb. 21, 1741-2....Esther, daughter of John and Esther Hill.
- March 14, 1741-2....Martha, daughter of John and Martha Bulkley.
- April 25, 1742....James, son of Robert and Catherine Wilson.
- May 16, 1742....Catherine, daughter of Samuel and Ruth Wakeman.
- May 16, 1742....Hannah, daughter of Samuel and Ruth Wakeman.
- June 6, 1742....Sarah, daughter of David and Sarah Bulkley.
- June 13, 1742....David, son of Stephen and Hannah Jennings.
- July 25, 1742....Pompey, servant to Mr. James Dennie.
- Sept. 5, 1742....Jonathan, son of Ebenezer and Abigail Silliman.
- Sept. 12, 1742....Abigail, daughter of John and Sarah Squire.
- Sept. 19, 1742....Seth, David, Joanna, Elizabeth and Eunice, children of John and Mary Smith.
- Sept. 20, 1742....Ann, daughter of Abijah and Mary Morehouse.
- Sept. 26, 1742....Sarah, daughter of Andrew and Sarah Burr.
- Sept. 26, 1742....Hugh, son of Hugh and Ann McRae.
- Sept. 26, 1742....Eunice, daughter of Joseph and Adria Frost.
- Sept. 26, 1742....Dinah, a negro child, servant to Mr. Nathan Gold.
- Oct. 24, 1742....Mary, daughter of Thomas and Deborah Staples.
- Nov. 21, 1742....Deborah, daughter of Lothrop and Sarah Lewis.
- Feb. 27, 1742-3....Abigail, daughter of Samuel and Abigail Rowland.
- March 20, 1742-3....James, son of Stephen and Rebecca Wakeman.
- March 27, 1743....Ebenezer, son of James and Sarah Redfield.
- April 24, 1743....Andrew, son of Peter and Sarah Thorp.
- May 15, 1743....Mary, daughter of Samuel and Ruth Wakeman.
- June 12, 1743....Peter, son of Jeremiah and Elizabeth Jennings.
- June 19, 1743....Noah, son of Noah and Ellen Hobart.
- June 19, 1743....Eunice, daughter of Robert and Catherine Wilson.
- July 3, 1743....William, son of Samuel and Abigail Hubbel.
- July 10, 1743....Eunice, daughter of Joseph and Deborah Jackson.

July 24, 1743....	David, son of David and Catee Leavitt.	Nov. 11, 1744....	John, son of Jabez and Elizabeth Barlow.
July 31, 1743....	Sarah, daughter of Ephraim and Abigail Burr.	Nov. 18, 1744....	Eben, son of David and Martha Hubbard.
July 31, 1743....	James, son of James and Deborah Burr.	Nov. 25, 1744....	Deborah, daughter of James and Deborah Burr.
Sept. 11, 1743....	Samuel, son of Michael and Abiah Middlebrook.	Dec. 2, 1744....	Peter, son of James and Hannah Morehouse.
Sept. 11, 1743....	David, son of Eleazar and Hannah Osborn.	Dec. 23, 1744....	Nathan, son of Jacob and Catee Leavit.
Sept. 11, 1743....	Mary, daughter of Samuel and Ann Sturgis.	March 10, 1744-5..	Daniel, son of Michael and Abiah Middlebrook.
Sept. 11, 1743....	Elizabeth and Sarah, daughters of David and Mehitabel Bartram.	March 24, 1744-5..	Samuel, son of Samuel and Ann Sturgis.
Sept. 18, 1743....	Peter, son of Peter and Mary Penfield.	March 24, 1744-5..	Grace, daughter of Samuel and Abigail Hubbard.
Oct. 9, 1743....	Jesse, son of John and Mary Morehouse.	March 24, 1744-5..	Toby, Ned and Jenny, negro children, servants of Mr. Joseph Bulkly.
Oct. 16, 1743....	Pinkny, son of John and Elizabeth Dimon.	May 19, 1745....	Peter, son of Peter and Sarah Bulkley.
Nov. 20, 1743....	David, son of David and Sarah Allen.	May 26, 1745....	David, son of David and Sarah Sherwood.
Nov. 27, 1743....	Andrew, son of Peter and Sarah Bulkly.	June 9, 1745....	Jesse, son of John and Mary Bedient.
Dec. 11, 1743....	Grizel, daughter of Joseph and Sarah Sherwood.	June 16, 1745....	Justin, son of Joseph and Elizabeth Jennings.
Dec. 18, 1743....	Sarah, daughter of Ebenezer and Mary Dimon.	June 16, 1745....	Hannah, daughter of Jeremiah and Elizabeth Jennings.
Dec. 26, 1743-4....	Robin, negro servant to Mr. Gideon Allen.	July 21, 1745....	Ann, daughter of Peter and Mary Penfield.
Jan. 22, 1743-4....	Jabez, son of Joseph and Mary Perry.	July 28, 1745....	Sarah, daughter of David and Sarah Allen.
Jan. 22, 1743-4....	Isaac, son of John and Esther Turney.	Aug. 25, 1745....	John, son of John and Dorothy Murwin.
Feb. 19, 1743-4....	Ann, daughter of Micah and Grace Perry.	Sept. 1, 1745....	Archibald, son of Hugh and Ann McRaa.
March 18, 1743-4..	Josiah, son of John and Martha Bulkley.	Sept. 1, 1745....	Jabez, son of Micah and Grace Perry.
March 18, 1744....	Thamar, a negro woman, servant to Mr. Robert Turney.	Sept. 13, 1745....	Peter Burr.
April 15, 1744....	Isaac, son of Nathaniel and Mary Burr.	Sept. 15, 1745....	Abigail, daughter of Joseph and Mehitabel Squire.
April 22, 1744....	Elizabeth, daughter of John and Experience Norris.	Sept. 15, 1745....	Elizabeth, daughter of Stephen and Esther Turney.
July 1, 1744....	Joseph, son of John and Mary Smith.	Sept. 15, 1745....	Elizabeth, daughter of David and Abiah Lewes.
July 1, 1744....	David, son of David and Sarah Bulkly.	Oct. 20, 1745....	Sarah, daughter of John and Mary Morehouse.
July 29, 1744....	Sarah, daughter of Joseph and Sarah Perry.	Oct. 27, 1745....	Sarah Burr.
Aug. 19, 1744....	Esther, daughter of Solomon and Abigail Sturgis.	Oct. 27, 1745....	Daniel, son of David and Mehitabel Bartram.
Aug. 26, 1744....	Walter, son of Edward and Martha Buddington.	Nov. 3, 1745....	Peter, son of Ephraim and Abigail Burr.
Sept. 9, 1744....	Samuel, son of Samuel and Thankful Beers.	Nov. 3, 1745....	Stephen, son of Stephen and Rebecca Wakeman.
Oct. 7, 1744....	William, son of Stephen and Hannah Jennings.	Nov. 10, 1745....	Abigail, daughter of Ebenezer and Abigail Silliman.
Oct. 7, 1744....	Ruth, daughter of Robert and Catherine Wilson.	Nov. 17, 1745....	Oliver, son of Andrew and Sarah Burr.
		Dec. 22, 1745....	Andrew, son of Samuel and Ruth Wakeman.

- Feb. 9, 1745-6....Ellen, daughter of Abijah and Mary Morehouse.
- Feb. 9, 1745-6....Josias, son of Obadiah and — Wheeler.
- Feb. 23, 1745-6....Grissel, daughter of Daniel and Sarah Perry.
- March 2, 1745-6....Lois, daughter of Samuel and Ruth Morehouse.
- March 5, 1745-6....Joshua, son of Joseph and Deborah Jackson.
- April 27, 1746....Hosea, son of James and Deborah Burr.
- April 27, 1746....Gershom, son of Eleazer and Hannah Osborn.
- June 15, 1746....Hannah, daughter of David and Sarah Bulkly.
- June 22, 1746....Elizabeth, daughter of Ebenezer and Mary Dimon.
- June 29, 1746....Esther, daughter of John and Martha Bulkly.
- Aug. 24, 1746....Ruben, son of Joseph and Elizabeth Jennings.
- Sept. 28, 1746....Samuel, son of Samuel and Abigail Squire.
- Oct. 5, 1746....Esther, daughter of David and Deborah Rowland.
- Oct. 5, 1746....Susanna, daughter of Stephen and Hannah Jennings.
- Jan. 11, 1746-7....Epaphros, son of John and Dorothy Murwin.
- Jan. 25, 1746-7....Martha, daughter of Edward and Martha Buddington.
- March 3, 1746-7....Mary, daughter of Jacob and Catee Leavit.
- March 29, 1747....Ezra, son of John and Sarah Jennings.
- April 12, 1747....Mary, daughter of John and Experience Norris.
- April 19, 1747....Daniel, son of Daniel and Sarah Perry.
- May 3, 1747....Daniel, son of John and Elizabeth Dimon.
- May 17, 1747....Eunice, daughter of Nathaniel and Hannah Pierson.
- May 31, 1747....Hannah, daughter of David and Sarah Allen.
- June 7, 1747....Jerusha, daughter of James and Deborah Burr.
- June 14, 1747....George, son of James and Hannah Morehouse.
- June 21, 1747....John, son of Robert and Catherine Wilson.
- Aug. 16, 1747....Esther, daughter of Michael and Abiah Middlebrook.
- Sept. 11, 1747....Elizabeth, daughter of John and Mary Morehouse.
- Oct. 4, 1747....David, son of Micah and Grace Perry.
- Oct. 25, 1747....Daniel, son of Nathaniel and Mary Wilson.
- Nov. 8, 1747....Sarah, daughter of Samuel and Abigail Squire.
- Nov. 22, 1747....Ellen, daughter of Jeremiah and Elizabeth Jennings.
- Nov. 29, 1747....John, son of Peter and Mary Penfield.
- Nov. 29, 1747....David, son of Samuel and Ann Sturgis.
- Nov. 29, 1747....Sarah, daughter of Joseph and Mehitable Squire.
- Jan. 31, 1747-8....Sarah, daughter of Stephen and Rebecca Wakeman.
- Feb. 28, 1747-8....Judson, son of Samuel and Abigail Sturges.
- Feb. 28, 1747-8....Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel and Ruth Wakeman.
- Feb. 28, 1747-8....Aaron, son of Peter and Sarah Bulkly.
- March 6, 1747-8....Adria, daughter of Jabez and Deborah Frost.
- March 13, 1747-8....Ward, son of David and Sarah Bulkly.
- March 13, 1747-8....Sarah, daughter of Joseph and Esther Frost.
- March 20, 1747-8....David, son of David and Martha Hubbel.
- March 20, 1747-8....Abel, son of Samuel and Abigail Hubbel.
- April 4, 1748....Dinah, a negro child, servant to Mr. Joseph Perry.
- May 29, 1748....Catee, daughter of Jacob and Catee Leavit.
- June 10, 1748....Ruhamah, daughter of Thomas and Deborah Staples.
- June 27, 1748....Mary, daughter of Andrew and Sarah Beardsly.
- July 17, 1748....Mary, daughter of Samuel and Thankful Beers.
- July 31, 1748....Jabez, son of Joseph and Elizabeth Jennings.
- Aug. 7, 1748....Joseph, son of Joseph and Sarah Perry.
- Oct. 18, 1748....Geetlow, daughter of Andrew and Abigail Truby.
- Oct. 23, 1748....John, son of Nathaniel and Hannah Pierson.
- Nov. 27, 1748....Hannah, daughter of Eleazer and Hannah Osborn.
- Dec. 10, 1748....David, son of Stephen and Sarah Turney.
- Dec. 27, 1748....Lucy, a negro woman, servant of Mr. James Beers.
- Dec. 27, 1748....Ned, a negro child, servant to Mr. James Beers.
- Jan. 1, 1748-9....Somers, son of Michael and Abiah Middlebrook.
- Jan. 1, 1748-9....John, son of Daniel and Sarah Perry.
- Feb. 11, 1748-9....Nancy, a negro child, servant to Capt. Samuel Burr.
- Feb. 15, 1748-9....Sarah, daughter of John and Sarah Jennings.
- March 19, 1748-9....Abijah, son of Abijah and Mary Morehouse.

- April 23, 1749....Elizabeth, daughter of David and Sarah Allen.
- July 30, 1749....Ebenezer, son of Ebenezer and Ann Wakeman.
- Aug. 4, 1749....Abigail, daughter of Joseph and Ann Hollingsworth.
- Aug. 15, 1749....Benjamin, son of Benony and Ann Gilbert.
- Sept. 1, 1749....Isaac, son of Samuel and Ruth Morehouse.
- Sept. 3, 1749....Marrino, a negro man, servant to Capt. Nathaniel Silliman.
- Oct. 15, 1749....Ann, daughter of Benjamin and Ann Jennings.
- Oct. 8, 1749....Ann, daughter of Nathaniel and Mary Wilson.
- Oct. 20, 1749....Ellen, daughter of Micah and Grace Perry.
- Oct. 31, 1749....Elizabeth, daughter of Jacob and Catee Leavit.
- Dec. 10, 1749....Jerusha, daughter of Andrew and Sarah Burr.
- Dec. 24, 1749....William, son of Jabez and Deborah Frost.
- Dec. 31, 1749....Deodate, son of Ebenezer and Abigail Silliman.
- Dec. 31, 1749....Joseph, son of John and Martha Bulkly.
- Dec. 31, 1749....Sarah, daughter of Ebenezer and Sarah Middlebrook.
- Feb. 4, 1749-50....Jack, a negro man, servant to Capt. John Silliman.
- Feb. 18, 1749-50....James, a negro man, servant to Mr. Zechariah Hubbard.
- March 11, 1749-50....Primus, a negro man, servant to Capt. Thomas Hill.
- March 25, 1750....Charles, son of Joseph and Elizabeth Jennings.
- March 25, 1750....William, son of John and Mary Morehouse.
- March 25, 1750....Mehitabel, daughter of Joseph and Mehitabel Squire.
- April 15, 1750....John, son of Samuel and Abigail Squire.
- May 27, 1750....Lois, daughter of David and Sarah Bulkly.
- June 10, 1750....Samuel, son of Samuel and Abigail Hubbel.
- June 24, 1750....Samuel, son of Stephen and Sarah Turney.
- Aug. 5, 1750....Abigail Burr.
- Sept. 23, 1750....John, son of Samuel and Ann Sturgis.
- Sept. 23, 1750....Stephen, son of Stephen and Hannah Jennings.
- Oct. 28, 1750....Joanna, daughter of Jacob and Catee Leavit.
- Nov. 25, 1750....Elizabeth, daughter of Jabez and Elizabeth Bulkly.
- Dec. 30, 1750....Sarah, daughter of Peter and Sarah Bulkly.
- Jan. 20, 1750-1....Abel, son of Joseph and Sarah Sherwood.
- Jan. 20, 1750-1....Josiah, son of James and Deborah Burr.
- Feb. 24, 1750-1....Catherine, daughter of Robert and Catherine Wilson.
- March 17, 1750-1....Grissel, daughter of Eleazer and Hannah Osborn.
- March 31, 1751....Esther, daughter of Benjamin and Ann Jennings.
- March 26, 1751....Ann, daughter of Nathaniel and Sarah Wilson.
- Jan. 2, 1751....Amos, son of Jack, and Dinah, Capt. Silliman's negro servants.
- July 7, 1751....Samuel, son of Anthony and Sarah Annable.
- Aug. 4, 1751....Mary, daughter of Michael and Abiah Middlebrook.
- Oct. 6, 1751....Jonathan, son of Micah and Grace Perry.
- Oct. 13, 1751....Grissel, daughter of Jabez and Deborah Frost.
- Oct. 27, 1751....Gideon, son of John and Abigail Allen.
- Nov. 3, 1751....Esther, daughter of David and Elizabeth Rowland.
- Nov. 17, 1751....David, son of Samuel and Abigail Squire.
- Dec. 1, 1751....Sarah, daughter of Ebenezer and Elizabeth Knap.
- Dec. 22, 1751....Noah, son of Stephen and Rebecca Wakeman.
- Feb. 16, 1752....Aaron, son of Abijah and Mary Morehouse.
- April 5, 1752....John, son of James and Deborah Burr.
- April 12, 1752....Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel and Abigail Hubbel.
- April 12, 1752....Aaron, son of Stephen and Sarah Turney.
- May 10, 1752....Mary, daughter of David and Sarah Allen.
- June 21, 1752....Abigail, daughter of Benoni and Ann Gilbert.
- July 5, 1752....Joseph, son of Joseph and Mehitabel Squire.
- Aug. 9, 1752....Ebenezer, son of Hezekiah and Abigail Sturgis.
- Aug. 17, 1752....Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel and Ruth Wakeman.
- Oct. 22, 1752....Stratten, son of Seth and Sarah Osborn.
- Nov. 5, 1752....Benjamin, son of Benjamin and Ann Jennings.
- Nov. 5, 1752....Sarah, daughter of Nathaniel and Sarah Wilson.
- Nov. 25, 1752....Joseph, son of Samuel and Eunice Wilson.
- Dec. 24, 1752....Samuel, son of John and Ann Wheeler.



- Dec. 31, 1752....Walter, son of David and Eunice Burr.
- Jan. 7, 1753....Eunice, daughter of David and Jane Ogden.
- Jan. 17, 1753....Dinah and Jenny, negro children, servants of Capt. Abraham Morehouse.
- Feb. 18, 1753....Gershom, son of Peter and Sarah Bulkly.
- March 11, 1753....Samuel, son of James and Mary Smedly.
- March 18, 1753....Abigail, daughter of John and Abigail Allen.
- March 18, 1753....Lydia, daughter of Jabez and Elizabeth Bulkly.
- April 22, 1753....Esther, daughter of Jonathan and Catherine Osborn.
- May 6, 1753....Ned, a negro child, servant to Mr. Ebenezer Bartram.
- June 24, 1753....Reuben, son of Joseph and Sarah Sherwood.
- July 1, 1753....Elizabeth and Mary, daughters of Robert and Catherine Wilson.
- July 1, 1753....Sarah, a negro child, daughter of James and Sarah —.
- July 22, 1753....Daniel, son of Samuel and Thankful Beers.
- July 22, 1753....Abraham, son of John and Sarah Parrit.
- Sept. 2, 1753....Elizabeth and Ruth, daughters of Samuel and Ruth Morehouse.
- Nov. 4, 1753....Gershom, son of Gershom and Martha Whitehead.
- Nov. 4, 1753....Elizabeth, daughter of Ebenezer and Elizabeth Knapp.
- Nov. 11, 1753....Jabez, son of David and Martha Hubbel.
- Nov. 15, 1753....Deborah, daughter of Jabez and Deborah Frost.
- Nov. 18, 1753....Lyman, son of Daniel and Eunice Jennings.
- Jan. 13, 1754....Joseph, son of Samuel and Eunice Wilson.
- Feb. 3, 1754....Daniel Stirling.
- Feb. 10, 1754....Esther, daughter of Talcott and Esther Bulkly.
- March 17, 1754....Sturgis, son of Micah and Grace Perry.
- March 17, 1754....Thomas, son of Jesse and Sarah Hunt.
- March 17, 1754....Lucretia, daughter of David and Eunice Burr.
- April 28, 1754....Ebenezer, son of Joseph and Mehitable Squire.
- July 7, 1754....Grissel, daughter of Samuel and Abigail Hubbel.
- July 7, 1754....Aaron, son of Stephen and Sarah Turney.
- July 7, 1754....Sarah, daughter of John and Sarah Parrit.
- July 7, 1754....Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel and Eunice Burr.
- Aug. 2, 1754....Mary Price.
- Aug. 2, 1754....Ellen, daughter of Ebenezer and Elizabeth Meeker.
- Sept. 8, 1754....Eunice, daughter of Nathan and Eunice Hill.
- Nov. 3, 1754....Dimon, son of Hezekiah and Abigail Sturgis.
- Nov. 10, 1754....Joseph, son of Gershom and Mary Banks.
- Nov. 17, 1754....Edmond, son of Benjamin and Ann Jennings.
- Nov. 17, 1754....Abigail, daughter of Abraham and Elizabeth Gold.
- Dec. 1, 1754....Ellen, daughter of David and Sarah Allen.
- Dec. 1, 1754....Sarah, daughter of Jonathan and Sarah Lewis.
- Dec. 15, 1754....John, son of John and Ann Wheeler.
- Dec. 15, 1754....Eunice, daughter of Gideon and Catherine Welles.
- Dec. 22, 1754....Ellen, daughter of Eleazer and Hannah Osborn.
- Jan. 12, 1755....Sarah, daughter of Jabez and Ann Thorp.
- Jan. 28, 1755....Jabez and Mary, children of Jabez and Elizabeth Bulkley.
- Feb. 2, 1755....Stephen, son of Stephen and Hannah Jennings.
- March 16, 1755....Lyd, a negro child, daughter of Primus and Dinah.
- April 6, 1755....Martha, daughter of John and Abigail Allen.
- May 4, 1755....Abigail, daughter of Samuel and Abigail Squier.
- May 25, 1755....Sarah, daughter of Jesse and Sarah Hunt.
- May 25, 1755....Phebe, a negro child, daughter of James and Sarah.
- June 1, 1755....Miriam, daughter of Peter and Rebecca Burr.
- June 15, 1755....Betty and Amos, children of Primus and Dinah.
- July 9, 1755....Ebenezer, son of Ebenezer and Elizabeth Knap.
- July 20, 1755....Samuel, son of Nathaniel and Abigail Hull.
- Sept. 20, 1755....Molly, daughter of Talcot and Esther Bulkley.
- Sept. 25, 1755....John, son of John and Hester Hill.
- Sept. 28, ....Thomas Handford, son of Ebenezer and Sarah Wakeman.
- Oct. 5, 1755....Olive, daughter of Nathaniel and Hannah Pierson.
- Oct. 5, 1755....John, son of Abel and Ellen Gold.
- Oct. 12, 1755....Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph and Rebecca Bartram.

Nov. 16, 1755....Robert, son of Robert and Catherine Wilson.  
 Nov. 30, 1755....Abraham, son of Daniel and Sarah Morehouse.  
 Dec. 14, 1755....Sarah, daughter of Joseph and Mehitable Squier.  
 Jan. 4, 1756....Peter, son of Stephen and Sarah Turney.  
 Jan. 4, 1756....Eunice, daughter of David and Eunice Burr.  
 Feb. 8, 1756....Aaron, son of Nathan and Eunice Hill.  
 March 14, 1756....Sturges, son of Jonathan and Sarah Lewis.  
 April 18, 1756....Jeremiah and Mary, children of David and Mary Wakeman.  
 May 2, 1756....Mary, daughter of Nathaniel and Sarah Wilson.  
 May 31, 1756....Mary, daughter of Ichabod and Deborah Wheeler.  
 June 27, 1756....John, son of Howes and Mary Osborn.  
 July 4, 1756....Isaac, son of Micah and Grace Perry.  
 July 11, 1756....John, son of John and Sarah Parrit.  
 July 25, 1756....William, son of Gold Sellick and Martha Silliman.  
 July 25, 1756....Aaron, son of Jabez and Ann Thorp.  
 Sept. 12, 1756....Annie, daughter of Samuel and Ruth Morehouse.  
 Oct. 24, 1756....Abel, son of Abel and Ellen Gold.  
 Oct. 31, 1756....Josiah, son of Benjamin and Ann Jennings.  
 Nov. 7, 1756....Gershom Burr, son of Thaddeus and Abigail Burr.  
 Nov. 21, 1756....Elizabeth, daughter of Ebenezer and Elizabeth Meeker.  
 Nov. 28, 1756....Hezekiah, son of Hezekiah and Abigail Sturgis.  
 Dec. 12, 1756....Abigail, daughter of Samuel and Abigail Hubbel.  
 Dec. 12, 1756....Hezekiah, son of Abraham and Elizabeth Gold.  
 Dec. 12, 1756....Mary, daughter of Jesse and Sarah Hunt.  
 Dec. 12, 1756....Ann, daughter of Daniel and Ann Burr.  
 Dec. 28, 1756....Eben, son of Hezekiah and Sarah Platt.  
 Jan. 16, 1757....Ebenezer, son of James and Hannah Beers.  
 Jan. 30, 1757....Ann, daughter of John and Abigail Allen.  
 Feb. 20, 1757....Edward, son of David and Sarah Allen.  
 Feb. 20, 1757....Eleanor, daughter of Samuel and Eunice Wilson.  
 March 27, 1757....Michael, son of Matthew and Rebecca Jennings.

March 27, 1757....Phillis, a negro child, son of James and Sarah.  
 April, 1757....Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph and Mehitable Squier.  
 April 9, 1757....Sturgis, son of David and Jane Ogden.  
 April 10, 1757....Philliss, son of Peter and Rebecca Burr.  
 May 15, 1757....Jane, daughter of Edmond and Abigail Hunt.  
 June 12, 1757....Amelia, daughter of Talcot and Esther Bulkley.  
 June 19, 1757....Eleazer, son of William and Mary Raymon.  
 July 3, 1757....Primus, a negro child, son of Primus and Dinah.  
 Aug. 14, 1757....David, son of David and Eunice Burr.  
 Aug. 14, 1757....Jane, daughter of Gershom and Mary Banks.  
 Aug. 14, 1757....Abigail, daughter of Daniel and Eunice Jennings.  
 Aug. 14, 1757....Benjamin, son of Ebenezer and Elizabeth Knap.  
 Aug. 14, 1757....Samuel, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Silliman.  
 Aug. 21, 1757....John, son of Joseph and Abigail Gold.  
 Sept. 11, 1757....Deborah, daughter of Gershom and Deborah Bradly.  
 Dec. 4, 1757....Thaddeus Burr.  
 Dec. 4, 1757....Eulalia, daughter of Joseph and Rebecca Bartram.  
 Dec. 28, 1757....Elizabeth, daughter of Donald and Isabel Macintosh.  
 Feb. 1, 1758....Ann, daughter of Alexander and Sarah McDonald.  
 March 13, 1758....Betty, daughter of Andrew and Jean McCulloch.  
 March 18, 1758....Sue, an old negro woman, servant to Mrs. Allen.  
 April 2, 1758....Abraham, son of Samuel and Ruth Morehouse.  
 April 2, 1758....Sarah, daughter of Jabez and Elizabeth Bulkley.  
 April 9, 1758....Mary, daughter of Micah and Grace Perry.  
 April 23, 1758....Elizabeth, daughter of Ezekiel and Esther Hull.  
 April 30, 1758....Samuel, son of Benjamin and Mary Osborn.  
 June 25, 1758....Grissel, daughter of Jabez and Ann Thorp.  
 Sept. 3, 1758....Ruth, daughter of John and Mary Morehouse.  
 Sept. 3, 1758....Mary, daughter of John and Sarah Redfield.  
 Sept. 17, 1758....Mary, daughter of Robert and Catherine Wilson.  
 Oct. 8, 1758....Abigail, daughter of Daniel and Ann Burr.

- Oct. 22, 1758....Rebecca, daughter of Nathan and Eunice Hill.
- Nov. 19, 1758....George, son of Samuel and Abigail Squier.
- Nov. 19, 1758....Susanna, daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth Osborne.
- Dec. 3, 1758....Andrew, son of Joseph and Mehitabel Squier.
- Dec. 17, 1758....Ruth, daughter of Nathan and Sarah Wilson.
- Jan. 2, 1759....James, son of Edmond and Abigail Hunt.
- Jan. 14, 1759....Lothrop, son of Jonathan and Sarah Lewis.
- Feb. 11, 1759....Talcot, son of Talcot and Esther Bulkley.
- Feb. 11, 1759....Solomon, son of Hezekiah and Abigail Sturgis.
- Feb. 11, 1759....Elizabeth, daughter of Abraham and Elizabeth Gold.
- March 11, 1759....Mary, daughter of James and Ellen Penfield.
- March 18, 1759....Ebenezer, son of Eleazer and Hannah Osborn.
- March 22, 1759....Hezekiah, son of Nathan and Ruth Burr.
- May 13, 1759....Samuel, son of Asa and Grace Spalding.
- June 17, 1759....Talcot, son of Abel and Ellen Gold.
- July 8, 1759....Jack, servant to Col. Smedly.
- July 29, 1759....William, son of David and Eunice Burr.
- July 29, 1759....Hannah, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Silliman.
- Aug. 5, 1759....James, son of James and Hannah Beers.
- Aug. 5, 1759....Prince, son of Primus and Dinah.
- Aug. 12, 1759....Benjamin, son of Jonathan and Grace Darrow.
- Aug. 12, 1759....Jabez, son of Moses and Abigail Bulkley.
- Aug. 19, 1759....John, son of John and Abigail Allen.
- Sept. 9, 1759....Samuel, son of William and Mary Raymon.
- Sept. 9, 1759....Jack and Amos, negro children, servants of Mr. James Beers.
- Sept. 30, 1759....Nathaniel, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Penfield.
- Sept. 30, 1759....Nancy, Dorcas and Lydia, negro children, servants of Mr. James Beers.
- Oct. 6, 1759....Ned, a negro child, servant to Samuel Beers.
- Oct. 21, 1759....Asa, son of Stephen and Sarah Turney.
- Jan. 6, 1760....Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Penfield.
- May 4, 1760....Ellen, daughter of Nathan and Ruth Burr.
- May 11, 1760....David, son of John and Sarah Redfield.
- June 1, 1760....Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel and Ruth Morehouse.
- June 29, 1760....Daniel, son of Daniel and Elizabeth Osborn.
- Aug. 8, 1760....George, son of David and Sarah Allen.
- Sept. 28, 1760....Edmond, son of Peter and Rebecca Burr.
- Sept. 28, 1760....Joseph, son of Ebenezer and Mary Bartram.
- Oct. 26, 1760....Ann, daughter of Jonathan and Sarah Lewis.
- Nov. 9, 1760....Hezekiah, son of James and Hannah Beers.
- Nov. 16, 1760....James, a negro child, son of James and Sarah.
- Nov. 23, 1760....Hannah and Ellen, daughters of Jabez and Ann Thorp.
- Dec. 14, 1760....Abigail, daughter of James and Elizabeth Bulkley.
- Jan. 30, 1761....Mary, wife of John Squier.
- March 1, 1761....Isaac Sterling.
- March 1, 1761....James, son of James and Ellen Penfield.
- March 15, 1761....Esther, daughter of Micah and Grace Perry.
- March 15, 1761....Seth, son of Daniel and Ann Burr.
- March 15, 1761....Sarah, daughter of Jonathan and Deborah Sturgis.
- April 12, 1761....John Burr, son of Abraham and Elizabeth Gold.
- April 26, 1761....Ann, daughter of William and Mary Raymon.
- June 14, 1761....Lois, daughter of Matthew and Rebecca Jennings.
- July 19, 1761....Grace, daughter of Jonathan and Grace Darrow.
- Aug. 2, 1761....Abigail, daughter of Talcot and Esther Bulkley.
- Aug. 2, 1761....Eunice, daughter of Hezekiah and Abigail Sturges.
- Aug. 2, 1761....Ellen, daughter of Abel and Ellen Gold.
- Aug. 16, 1761....Ellen, daughter of David and Eunice Burr.
- Aug. 30, 1761....Shem, a negro boy, servant to widow Hannah Osborn.
- Sept. 13, 1761....Abigail, daughter of Moses and Abigail Jennings.
- Oct. 4, 1761....Sarah, daughter of Ebenezer and Martha Perry.
- Oct. 11, 1761....Nero, a negro child, son of Primus and Dinah.
- Oct. 17, 1761....Mabel, daughter of Ebenezer and Amelia Burr.
- Jan. 3, 1762....Hannah, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Penfield.
- Jan. 17, 1762....Olive, daughter of Squier and Damaris Wakeman.
- Feb. 7, 1762....Jabez, son of Samuel and Rebecca Mann.

April 4, 1762....	Nathaniel, son of Nathaniel and Sarah Wilson.	Aug. 7, 1763....	Esther, daughter of Nathan and Sarah Bulkley.
May 30, 1762....	Ellen, daughter of Moses and Abigail Bulkley.	Aug. 7, 1763....	Prince, a negro child, son of Primus and Dinah.
July 4, 1762....	Sarah, daughter of Seth and Mehitabel Osborn.	Aug. 21, 1763....	Noah, son of Samuel and Rebecca Mann.
July 18, 1762....	James, son of John and Abigail Allen.	Sept. 11, 1763....	Esther, daughter of Daniel and Ann Burr.
July 18, 1762....	William, son of Ichabod and Deborah Wheeler.	Oct. 9, 1763....	Abigail, daughter of David and Eunice Burr.
July 18, 1762....	James, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Silliman.	Nov. 6, 1763....	Ebenezer, son of David and Ann Dimon.
Aug. 15, 1762....	Benjamin, son of Benjamin and Mary Osborn.	Nov. 6, 1763....	Dan and Dolphin, negro children, servants of Noah Hobart.
Aug. 15, 1762....	Ebenezer, son of Ebenezer and Mary Bartram.	Nov. 27, 1763....	Samuel, son of Abel and Elien Gold.
Sept. 5, 1762....	Mary, daughter of David and Mary Wakeman.	Dec. 4, 1763....	Edward, son of Hezekiah and Abigail Sturgis.
Sept. 5, 1762....	Catherine, daughter of Jonathan and Ann Silliman.	Dec. 11, 1763....	Jeremiah, son of Daniel and Elizabeth Osborn.
Sept. 12, 1762....	Hezekiah, son of Nathan and Ruth Burr.	Jan. 29, 1764....	Sarah, daughter of Jonathan and Sarah Ogden.
Sept. 19, 1762....	William, son of Samuel and Abigail Squire.	Feb. 5, 1764....	William, son of Joseph and Sarah Sturgis.
Sept. 19, 1762....	Esther, daughter of Jonathan and Sarah Ogden.	March 4, 1764....	Ellen, daughter of Justin and Hannah Hobart.
Oct. 3, 1762....	Abel, son of Stephen and Sarah Turney.	March 18, 1764....	Abigail, daughter of Peter and Hannah Penfield.
Nov. 21, 1762....	Rowland, son of Asa and Grace Spalding.	April 8, 1764....	Philip, a negro child, servant of Mr. James Beers.
Dec. 12, 1762....	James, a negro child, son of James and Sarah.	May 20, 1764....	Thankful, daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth Darrow.
Feb. 6, 1763....	Eleazer, son of James and Elizabeth Bulkley.	June 3, 1764....	Thomas, son of Ebenezer and Mary Bartram.
Feb. 13, 1763....	Peter, son of Ebenezer and Elizabeth Meeker.	June 17, 1764....	Thomas, son of Nehemiah and Sarah Burr.
Feb. 15, 1763....	Phebe, daughter of Moses and Abigail Jennings.	Aug. 5, 1764....	Sarah, daughter of John and Sarah Redfield.
Feb. 27, 1763....	Ephraim, son of James and Ellen Penfield.	Aug. 22, 1764....	Amos, son of Robert and Catherine Wilson.
March 13, 1763....	John, son of John and Sarah Redfield.	Nov. 18, 1764....	Gold, son of Jonathan and Ann Silliman.
March 20, 1763....	Ellen, daughter of Jabez and Ann Thorp.	Nov. 18, 1764....	Anna, daughter of Eliezer and Sarah Osborn.
March 20, 1763....	Lewis Burr, son of Jonathan and Deborah Sturgis.	Nov. 25, 1764....	Elizabeth, daughter of Moses and Abigail Bulkley.
April 3, 1763....	Allen, son of Hezekiah and Ann Nichols.	Jan. 20, 1764....	Bradly, son of Talcot and Esther Bulkley.
April 10, 1763....	Jack, a negro child, servant to widow Morehouse.	Feb. 24, 1764....	Catherine, daughter of Moses and Abigail Jennings.
April 24, 1763....	Samuel, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Penfield.	March 17, 1765....	John, son of Ichabod and Deborah Wheeler.
May 8, 1763....	Samuel, son of John and Hannah Godfrey.	April 14, 1765....	Anna, daughter of Jonathan and Deborah Sturges.
May 29, 1763....	Mary, daughter of Peter and Eunice Jennings.	April 14, 1765....	Silliman and John, sons of Nathaniel and Sarah Wilson.
June 19, 1763....	Happy, daughter of Talcot and Esther Bulkley.	April 14, 1765....	Ezra and Esther, children of James and Hannah Beers.
July 24, 1763....	Ebenezer, son of Ebenezer and Martha Perry.	April 28, 1765....	Esther, daughter of Reuben and Ellen Osborne.
July 31, 1763....	Deborah, daughter of Abraham and Elizabeth Gold.	May 19, 1765....	Thaddeus, son of James and Ellen Penfield.



- June 2, 1765....Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Silliman.
- June 9, 1765....Peter, son of Jonathan and Hannah Bulkley.
- June 9, 1765....Mary, daughter of Daniel and Ann Dimon.
- June 16, 1765....Hannah, daughter of Hannah and John Godfry.
- July 14, 1765....Mabel, daughter of James and Elizabeth Bulkley.
- July 14, 1765....Mary, daughter of Howes and Mary Osborn.
- July 14, 1765....Josiah, son of Samuel and Rebecca Mann.
- July 21, 1765....Hannah, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Penfield.
- July 21, 1765....Eliphalet, son of Eliphalet and Eunice Thorp.
- July 21, 1765....Cloe, a mulatto child, servant to Mrs. Sarah Burr.
- Aug. 4, 1765....Samuel, son of John and Abigail Allen.
- Aug. 25, 1765....Phebe, daughter of John and Eunice Smedly.
- Oct. 6, 1765....Mary, daughter of Ebenezer and Mary Bartram.
- Oct. 6, 1765....Ann, daughter of Nathaniel and Elizabeth McCaul.
- Oct. 13, 1765....Nehemiah, son of Nehemiah and Sarah Burr.
- Oct. 27, 1765....James, son of John and Eunice Smedly.
- Nov. 3, 1765....Titus, a negro child, son of Primus and Dinah.
- Nov. 10, 1765....Grissel, daughter of Nathaniel and Ruth Burr.
- Nov. 24, 1765....Joab, son of Stephen and Sarah Turney.
- Dec. 29, 1765....Mary, daughter of Justin and Hannah Hobart.
- Jan. 12, 1766....Jerusha, daughter of Joseph and Sarah Sturgis.
- Jan. 12, 1766....Peter, son of Peter and Eunice Jennings.
- Feb. 9, 1766....Lewis, son of Peter and Hannah Penfield.
- Feb. 23, 1766....Isaac, son of Abel and Ellen Gold.
- Feb. 23, 1766....Ann, daughter of Hezekiah and Ann Nichols.
- March 2, 1766....Samuel, son of Hezekiah and Abigail Sturgis.
- March 9, 1766....Abraham, son of Abraham and Elizabeth Gold.
- March 23, 1766....Isaiah, son of Daniel and Ann Burr.
- March 23, 1766....Abram, a negro child, servant to Mr. James Beers.
- April 27, 1766....Sarah, daughter of David and Eunice Burr.
- May 30, 1766....David Ogden.
- July 20, 1766....Ann, daughter of Grace Hubbel.
- July 27, 1766....Eunice, daughter of Eliezer and Sarah Osborne.
- Aug. 3, 1766....Sarah, daughter of William and Esther Dimon.
- Nov. 30, 1766....Noah, son of Samuel and Sarah Beers.
- Dec. 28, 1766....Sarah, daughter of Joseph and Christian Silliman.
- Jan. 11, 1767....Ebenezer, son of Nehemiah and Sarah Burr.
- Feb. 1, 1767....Reuben, son of Reuben and Ellen Osborne.
- Feb. 22, 1767....Thaddeus, son of Gershom and Priscilla Burr.
- March 1, 1767....Squier, son of Paul and Sarah Nichols.
- March 15, 1767....Abigail, daughter of Jonathan and Sarah Ogden.
- March 29, 1767....Jonathan, son of Jonathan and Hannah Bulkley.
- April 26, 1767....Ruhamah, daughter of Talcot and Esther Bulkley.
- May 17, 1767....Job, son of Ebenezer and Mary Bartram.
- June 14, 1767....Sturges, son of Moses and Abigail Bulkley.
- June 28, 1767....Ellen, daughter of James and Ellen Penfield.
- July 5, 1767....Samuel, William and Amelia, children of Ebenezer and Amelia Burr.
- Aug. 16, 1767....Benjamin, son of John and Hannah Godfry.
- Aug. 30, 1767....Ann, daughter of David and Ann Dimon.
- Sept. 6, 1767....Lucretia, daughter of Moses and Abigail Jennings.
- Sept. 13, 1767....Jonathan, son of Jonathan and Deborah Sturgis.
- Oct. 4, 1767....Burr, son of James and Hannah Beers.
- Oct. 11, 1767....Dorcas, Titus, Dinah and Lyd, servants of Col Smedley.
- Oct. 11, 1767....Turk and Dorcas, negro children, servants to Col. Smedley.
- Oct. 25, 1767....Isaac, son of Nathaniel and Sarah Wilson.
- Oct. 25, 1767....Ebenezer, son of Jonathan and Ann Silliman.
- Oct. 25, 1767....John, son of David and Sarah Turney.
- Nov. 1, 1767....Esther, daughter of Samuel and Rebecca Mann.
- Nov. 1, 1767....Dinah, a negro child, daughter of Primus and Dinah.
- Dec. 6, 1767....Josiah, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Penfield.
- Jan. 3, 1768....Eunice, daughter of John and Eunice Smedley.
- Jan. 3, 1768....Mabel, daughter of Eliphalet and Eunice Thorp.

Jan. 10, 1768....	Sarah, daughter of Joseph and Sarah Sturgis.	Aug. 20, 1769....	Moses, son of Moses and Abigail Bulkley.
Feb. 7, 1768....	Sarah, daughter of Nathan and Sarah Bulkley.	Aug. 20, 1769....	Sarah Stanley, daughter of Hezekiah and Jerusha Fitch.
Feb. 7, 1768....	Elizabeth, daughter of William and Esther Dimon.	Sept. 3, 1769....	Abigail, daughter of Jonathan and Hannah Bulkley.
Feb. 14, 1768....	Nathaniel, son of Nathan and Ruth Burr.	Sept. 3, 1769....	Isaac Lathrop, son of Gershom and Priscilla Burr.
March 6, 1768....	Silas, son of Gideon and Catherine Welles.	Sept. 10, 1769....	Barnabas Lothrop, son of Jonathan and Deborah Sturgis.
March 6, 1768....	Jerome, son of Justin and Hannah Hobart.	Sept. 10, 1769....	Samuel, son of Andrew and Elizabeth Rowland.
March 7, 1768....	Ned, a negro child, servant to Jonathan Ogden.	Sept. 17, 1769....	David, son of James and Ellen Penfield.
March 1, 1768....	Justus, son of Robert and Catherine Wilson.	Sept. 17, 1769....	Lucretia, daughter of Moses and Abigail Jennings.
March 27, 1768....	Ebenezer, son of Ebenezer and Lydia Hubbel.	Sept. 25, 1769....	Justus, son of Wakeman and Mary Burr.
April 10, 1768....	Andrew, son of David and Eunice Burr.	Oct. 20, 1769....	Levi, son of Wakeman and Mary Burr.
April 10, 1768....	Sarah, daughter of Eliezer and Sarah Osborne.	Oct. 29, 1769....	Sarah, daughter of David and Sarah Turney.
May 8, 1768....	Esther, daughter of Abel and Ellen Gold.	Nov. 19, 1769....	Eliezer, son of Samuel and — Hull.
May 15, 1768....	Abigail, daughter of Hezekiah and Abigail Sturges.	Nov. 19, 1769....	Ebenezer, son of Paul and Sarah Nichols.
May 15, 1768....	Gershom, son of Gershom and Priscilla Burr.	Jan. 14, 1770....	Esther, daughter of William and Esther Dimon.
July 10, 1768....	Ellen, daughter of Peter and Eunice Jennings.	Feb. 4, 1770....	Jonathan, son of Jonathan and Elizabeth Maltby.
Aug. 4, 1768....	Boston, a negro child, servant to Col. Smedley.	Feb. 18, 1770....	Walter, son, Eliphalet and Eunice Thorp.
Sept. 11, 1768....	James, son of James and Elizabeth Bulkley.	March 4, 1770....	Sherwood, son of Ebenezer and Martha Perry.
Sept. 17, 1768....	Mary, daughter of Aaron and Mary Hubbel.	March 18, 1770....	Eleazer, son of Eliezer and Sarah Osborn.
Oct. 30, 1768....	Jonathan, son of Reuben and Ellen Osborn.	March 25, 1770....	Lydia, daughter of John and Eunice Smedley.
Nov. 6, 1768....	Mary, daughter of Joseph and Christian Silliman.	March 25, 1770....	Jabez, son of Ebenezer and Lydia Hubbel.
Jan. 1, 1769....	Sarah, daughter of John and Abigail Allen.	May 20, 1770....	Mary, daughter of Jonathan and Sarah Ogden.
Jan. 29, 1769....	Hannah, daughter of Daniel and Ann Burr.	May 27, 1770....	Houton, son of James and Elizabeth Bulkley.
March 5, 1769....	Ann, daughter of Abraham and Elizabeth Gold.	June 3, 1770....	Job, Micah, Walter and Sall, children of Peter and Sarah Perry.
March 5, 1769....	Abigail, daughter of Hezekiah and Emillia Silliman.	July 8, 1770....	Isaac, son of Hezekiah and Emillia Silliman.
March 26, 1769....	Noah, son of Justin and Hannah Hobart.	July 8, 1770....	Edmond, son of Reuben and Ellen Osborn.
April 23, 1769....	Nehemiah, son of Nehemiah and Sarah Burr.	July 22, 1770....	David, son of Joseph and Sarah Sturgis.
April 30, 1769....	John, son of Jonathan and Elizabeth Maltby.	Sept. 9, 1770....	Mary, daughter of Hezekiah and Abigail Sturgis.
May 7, 1769....	Bradly, son of Tallcot and Esther Bulkley.	Sept. 9, 1770....	Abigail, daughter of Gershom and Priscilla Burr.
May 7, 1769....	Joel, son of Hezekiah and Ann Nichols.	Sept. 16, 1770....	Abigail, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Penfield.
July 23, 1769....	Abel, son of Samuel and Sarah Beers.	Sept. 30, 1770....	Nathan, son of Abel and Ellen Gold.
Aug. 6, 1769....	Jerusha, daughter of Ebenezer and Mary Bartram.	Oct. 14, 1770....	Elijah, son of Israel and Hannah Bibbins.

- Nov. 15, 1770....Jonathan, son of Jonathan and Ann Silliman.
- Nov. 18, 1770....Elizabeth, daughter of Peter and Eunice Jennings.
- Nov. 25, 1770....Abel, son of David and Jane Ogden.
- Dec. 2, 1770....Toney, a negro child, son of Toney and Nanny.
- Dec. 23, 1770....Rhoda, daughter of Joseph and Christian Silliman.
- Jan. 27, 1771....John Gold, son of David and Sarah Allen.
- Feb. 9, 1771....Silas, son of Hezekiah and Ann Nichols.
- Feb. 24, 1771....Jason, son of Abraham and Elizabeth Gold.
- March 27, 1771....Hezekiah, son of Hezekiah and Jerusha Fitch.
- March 24, 1771....Joseph Cesar, a negro child, son of James and Sarah.
- April 28, 1771....Sarah, daughter of John and Eunice Penfield.
- May 5, 1771....Thomas, son of Ebenezer and Mary Bartram.
- May 5, 1771....Ezra, son of John and Hannah Godfrey.
- May 12, 1771....Sarah, daughter of Nehemiah and Sarah Burr.
- June 30, 1771....Sturgis, son of Jabez and Martha Thorp.
- July 18, 1771....Ezra, son of Ezra and Martha Jennings.
- Aug. 3, 1771....Abigail, daughter of David and Ann Dimon.
- Aug. 4, 1771....Deborah, daughter of Moses and Abigail Jennings.
- Sept. 22, 1771....Deborah, daughter of Jonathan and Deborah Sturgis.
- Oct. 27, 1771....Jesse, son of Daniel and Lois Dimon.
- Nov. 3, 1771....Sarah, daughter of Andrew and Abigail Bulkley.
- Nov. 5, 1771....Esther, daughter of Samuel and Esther Smedley.
- Nov. 10, 1771....Ebenezer, son of Samuel and Sarah Beers.
- Nov. 24, 1771....Pegg, a negro woman, servant to Mr. David Allen.
- Dec. 1, 1771....Thomas, son of Jonathan and Hannah Bulkley.
- Dec. 1, 1771....Fanny, daughter of Hezekiah and Emmely Silliman.
- Dec. 29, 1771....Hannah, daughter of Nehemiah and Lydia Phippany.
- Jan. 5, 1772....Abigail, daughter of Wakeman and Mary Burr.
- Feb. 2, 1772....Seth, son of Peter and Sarah Perry.
- Feb. 16, 1772....Nathaniel Lewis, son of Samuel and Abigail Sturgis.
- March 8, 1772....Gideon, son of David and Sarah Allen.
- March 29, 1772....Abigail, daughter of Eleazer and Sarah Osborn.
- April 19, 1772....Sarah, daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth Maltby.
- April 19, 1772....Sarah, daughter of Eliphalet and Eunice Thorp.
- April 19, 1772....Mary, daughter of Abijah and Mary Morehouse.
- May 3, 1772....Levi, son of Ebenezer and Martha Perry.
- June 7, 1772....Justin, son of Justin and Hannah Hobart.
- June 28, 1772....David, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Penfield.
- July 5, 1772....Priscilla, daughter of Gold Slick and Martha Silliman.
- Aug. 2, 1772....Elizabeth, daughter of James and Elizabeth Bulkley.
- Aug. 9, 1772....James, son of Paul and Sarah Nichols.
- Aug. 23, 1772....Sarah, daughter of Ezra and Martha Jennings.
- Aug. 30, 1772....Thomas, son of Eleazer and Elizabeth Burrit.
- Sept. 27, 1772....Elizabeth, daughter of Isaac and Abigail Jennings.
- Oct. 11, 1772....Eunice Dennie, daughter of Ger-shom and Priscilla Burr.
- Nov. 1, 1772....John, son of John and Eunice Smedley.
- Nov. 1, 1772....Hezekiah, son of David and Mary Osborn.
- Nov. 1, 1772....Anna, daughter of Jonathan and Anna Silliman.
- Jan. 17, 1773....Grissel, daughter of Abel and Ellen Gold.
- Feb. 14, 1773....Elizabeth Burr, daughter of Joseph and Sarah Sturgis.
- Feb. 28, 1773....Sally, daughter of Hezekiah and Emely Silliman.
- March 14, 1773....Eunice, daughter of James and Ellen Penfield.
- March 28, 1773....William Burr, son of William and Esther Dimon.
- May 2, 1773....Eunice, daughter of John and Eunice Penfield.
- May 9, 1773....Hezekiah, son of Hezekiah and Ann Nichols.
- May 16, 1773....Lydia, daughter of Ebenezer and Lydia Hubbel.
- May 30, 1773....Barnabas, son of Ebenezer and Mary Bartram.
- June 6, 1773....Eleazar, son of Nehemiah and Sarah Burr.
- June 6, 1773....Priscilla, daughter of Jonathan and Sarah Ogden.
- July 4, 1773....Thankful, daughter of Howes and Mary Osborn.
- July 25, 1773....Eleanor, daughter of Reuben and Ellen Osborn.
- Sept. 5, 1773....Hannah, daughter of Jonathan and Hannah Bulkley.

Sept. 5, 1773....	Betsey, daughter of Israel and Hannah Bibbins.	April 16, 1775....	Robin, a negro servant to Capt. Samuel Squire.
Sept. 19, 1773....	Josiah, son of Jonathan and Deborah Sturgis.	May 14, 1775....	Joseph, son of Joseph and Sarah Sturgis.
Sept. 19, 1773....	Cate, a negro child, servant to Mr. Job Bartram.	May 14, 1775....	Seth Burr, son of Abel and Ellen Gold.
Oct. 3, 1773....	David, son of David and Sarah Allen.	May 14, 1775....	Elijah, son of Ezra and Martha Jennings.
Oct. 31, 1773....	Lyman, son of John and Hannah Godfry.	May 28, 1775....	Mary, daughter of Wakeman and Mary Burr.
Oct. 31, 1773....	Aaron, son of Abijah and Mary Morehouse.	June 4, 1775....	Ebenezer, son of Ebenezer and Anne Wakeman.
Nov. 21, 1773....	Samuel, son of Samuel and Hannah Andrews, deceased, being offered by his grandmother, the widow, Ruth Wakeman	June 4, 1775....	Jonathan Sturges, son of Ebenezer and Anne Wakeman.
Dec. 12, 1773....	Elijah, son of Stephen and Abiah Turney.	June 4, 1775....	Gershom, son of Hezekiah and Anne Nichols.
Jan. 2, 1774....	Elizabeth, daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth Maltbie.	June 4, 1775....	Stephen, son of Samuel, Jr., and Sarah Beers.
Feb. 22, 1774....	David, son to Peter and Sarah Perry.	June 18, 1775....	Sarah, wife of Levi Mallory.
April 10, 1774....	Moses, son of Moses and Abigail Jennings.	June 25, 1775....	Nathaniel, son of Samuel and Anne Squire.
April 10, 1774....	—, son of Eleazar and Sarah Osborn.	June 25, 1775....	Martha, daughter of Nathan and Ruth Burr.
June 26, 1774....	Sarah, daughter of Daniel and Lois Dimon.	June 25, 1775....	Isaac Couch, son of Ebenezer and Lydia Hubbel.
July 3, 1774....	Clarina, daughter of Jabez and Martha Thorp.	June 25, 1775....	Ebenezer, son of Levi and Sarah Mallory.
July 3, 1774....	Noah, son of Eliphalet and Eunice Thorp.	June 25, 1775....	Priscilla, daughter of Levi and Sarah Mallory.
July 3, 1774....	Lydia, daughter of Justin and Hannah Hobart.	June 30, 1775....	Gershom, son of Gershom and Grizzel Osborne.
July 10, 1774....	Eunice, daughter of Nehemiah and Lydia Phippany.	July 16, 1775....	Mary, daughter of Andrew and Mary Eliot.
July 10, 1774....	Priscilla Lothrop, daughter of Gershom and Priscilla Burr.	July 16, 1775....	Anne, daughter of James and Ellen Penfield.
Aug. 10, 1774....	Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel and Esther Smedley.	July 16, 1775....	Sarah, daughter of Paul and Sarah Nichols.
Oct. 30, 1774....	Andrew, son of James and Elizabeth Bulkley.	July 20, 1775....	Elizabeth, daughter of Seth and Ruth Morehouse.
Nov. 13, 1774....	Samuel, son of Samuel and Abigail Sturgis.	Aug. 6, 1775....	Ellen, daughter of David, Jr., and Sarah Allen.
Nov. 27, 1774....	Anna, daughter of Toney and Nanny, a negro child, offered by Andrew Eliot.	Aug. 13, 1775....	Mary, daughter of Jonathan and Anne Silliman.
Nov. 28, 1774....	Jenny, a negro child, offered by Deacon Bulkley.	Aug. 19, 1775....	Mary, daughter of Aaron and Mary Hubbel.
Feb. 26, 1775....	Abigail, daughter of William and Esther Dimon.	Aug. 27, 1775....	Martha, daughter of Aaron and Mary Hubbel.
March 5, 1775....	Samuel, son of John and Eunice Smedley.	Aug. 27, 1775....	David, son of Aaron and Mary Hubbel.
March 5, 1775....	Jonathan, son of Jonathan and Elizabeth Maltby.	Aug. 27, 1775....	Samuel, son of Samuel, Jr., and Anne Guire.
March 26, 1775....	Noah, son of Nehemiah and Sarah Burr.	Aug. 27, 1775....	Anne, daughter of Samuel, Jr., and Anne Guire.
April 7, 1775....	Gideon, son of Nathan and Ruth Burr.	Sept. 17, 1775....	Daniel, son of Daniel and Anne Burr.
April 16, 1775....	Toney, a negro servant to Mr. Abel Gold.	Sept. 27, 1775....	Elizabeth, daughter of Daniel and Anne Burr.
		Oct. 15, 1775....	Jonathan, son of Jonathan and Sarah Ogden.
		Oct. 29, 1775....	Oliver, son of Jonathan and Deborah Sturges.



- Nov. 26, 1775....Edward Allen, son of Abijah and Mary Morehouse.
- Dec. 27, 1775....Toney, a negro child offered by Jonathan and Deborah Sturges.
- Jan. 7, 1776....Daniel Starr, son of Job and Abigail Bartram.
- Jan. 21, 1776....Abigail, daughter of Isaac and Abigail Jennings.
- Jan. 25, 1776....Eunice, daughter of Nathaniel and Sarah Wilson.
- Jan. 25, 1776....Burr, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Silliman.
- Jan. 25, 1776....Wakeman, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Silliman.
- Jan. 25, 1776....Lois, daughter of Matthew and Rebecca Jennings.
- Jan. 25, 1776....William, son of John, Jr., and Elizabeth Wilson.
- Jan. 25, 1776....Abiah, daughter of Zechariah and Eunice Jennings.
- Jan. 25, 1776....Pomp, a negro male child, offered by Nathaniel Wilson.
- Feb. 18, 1776....Grizzel, daughter of Eleazer, Jr., and Sarah Osborn.
- Feb. 18, 1776....Billy, son of Israel and Hannah Bibbins.
- Feb. 25, 1776....Daniel, son of Abraham and Elizabeth Gold.
- Feb. 25, 1776....Hezekiah, son of Hezekiah and Emilia Silliman.
- Feb. 25, 1776....Nancy, daughter of Peter and Sarah Perry.
- March 27, 1776....Daniel, son of Daniel and Sarah Wilson.
- March 27, 1776....David, son of Daniel and Sarah Wilson.
- March 27, 1776....Samuel, son of Daniel and Sarah Wilson.
- March 27, 1776....Elizabeth, daughter of Isaac and Sarah Morehouse.
- April 9, 1776....Henry Stanley, son of Jonathan and Hannah Bulkley.
- May 12, 1776....Joel, son of Eliphalet and Eunice Thorp.
- May 19, 1776....Reuben, son of Reuben and Ellen Osborn.
- May 19, 1776....Martha, daughter of Ebenezer and Martha Perry.
- May 27, 1776....Deodate, son of Deodate and Catharine Silliman.
- June 23, 1776....Abel, son of Daniel and Sarah Dimon.
- June 23, 1776....Ned, a negro male child, offered by Job Bartram.
- June 23, 1776....Flora, daughter of Toney and Nanny (born in the house of Andrew Eliot).
- July 28, 1776....Sarah, daughter of Ebenezer and Mary Bartram.
- Aug. 3, 1776....Sally, daughter of Gershom and Grizzel Osborn.
- Aug., 1776....Sarah, daughter of Daniel and Sarah Wilson.
- Sept. 22, 1776....John, son of Uriah and Sarah Morehouse.
- Sept. 22, 1776....Andrew, son of Levi and Sarah Mallery.
- Sept. 24, 1776....Jeremiah, son of Jeremiah and Elizabeth Jennings.
- Oct. 20, 1776....Debby, daughter of Moses and Abigail Jennings.
- Oct. 27, 1776....Moses, son of James and Elizabeth Bulkley.
- Nov. 3, 1776....Elizabeth, daughter of Andrew and Mary Eliot.
- Nov. 19, 1776....Joel, son of James and Sarah McRae.
- Nov. 24, 1776....Stephen, son of David and Mehitabel Jennings.
- Nov. 24, 1776....Abigail, daughter of David and Mehitabel Jennings.
- Dec. 15, 1776....Nance, negro servant to Mr. Ebenezer Hill of Greenfield.
- Jan. 13, 1777....Anne, daughter of Ebenezer and Anne Wakeman.
- Jan. 23, 1777....Sarah, daughter of Andrew and Abigail Jennings.
- Jan. 31, 1777....Lyman, son of Seth and Ruth Morehouse.
- Feb. 23, 1777....Andrew, son of Ebenezer and Mary Squire.
- March 7, 1777....Thomas Staples, Jr.
- March 7, 1777....Sarah Staples.
- March 7, 1777....Samuel, son of Thomas and Hannah Staples.
- March 7, 1777....Jesse, son of Thomas and Hannah Staples.
- March 7, 1777....Walter, son of Thomas and Hannah Staples.
- March 16, 1777....Abigail, daughter of Samuel, Jr., and Anne Squire.
- March 23, 1777....Isaac, son of Job and Elizabeth Bartram.
- March 23, 1777....Phoebe, daughter of John and Eunice Smedley.
- March 23, 1777....Elizabeth, daughter of Hezekiah and Anne Nichols.
- April 6, 1777....Toney, negro servant to Mr. David Allen.
- April 6, 1777....Cato, negro servant to Mr. David Allen.
- April 15, 1777....Mary Squire
- May 8, 1777....Priscilla, daughter of William and Esther Dimon.
- June 17, 1777....Hannah, daughter of Abel and Ellen Gold.
- June 22, 1777....Joel, son of Stephen and Abiah Turney.
- July 20, 1777....Daniel, son of Nathan and Patience Thorp.
- July 30, 1777....Elizabeth, daughter of Ezra and Martha Jennings.

July 30, 1777....	Betsey, daughter of James and Elizabeth Jennings.	Sept. 6, 1778....	Elizabeth, daughter of Ruth and Seth Morehouse.
Sept. 7, 1777....	Gershom, son of Gershom and Grizzel Osborne.	Sept. 6, 1778....	Debby, daughter of Ebenezer and Mary Squire.
Sept. 9, 1777....	Noah, son of Nehemiah and Sarah Burr.	Sept. 13, 1778....	Anne, daughter of Stephen and — Thorp.
Sept. 8, 1777....	Sarah, daughter of Stratten and Rhoda Osborn.	Oct. 15, 1778....	Aaron, son of Ebenezer and Lydia Hubbel.
Nov. 2, 1777....	Gold Selleck, son of Gold Selleck and Mary Silliman.	Nov. 1, 1778....	Miriam, a negro child, offered by Howes Osborne.
Nov. 2, 1777....	Thaddeus, son of Peter and Esther Burr.	Dec. 27, 1778....	John, son of Job and Elizabeth Bartram.
Nov. 5, 1777....	Abigail, daughter of Jabez and Abigail Hubbel.	Jan. 17, 1779....	Esther Perry, daughter of Eliph- alet and Eunice Thorp.
Nov. 9, 1777....	Mabel, daughter of David and Mehitabel Jennings.	Jan. 24, 1779....	Esther, daughter of Nehemiah and Abia Fowler.
Dec. 14, 1777....	Oliver, son of Jonathan and Deborah Sturges.	Jan. 31, 1779....	Priscilla, daughter of Nathan, Jr., and Mehitabel Beers.
Dec. 28, 1777....	Eunice, daughter of John, Jr., and Elizabeth Squire.	Feb. 15, 1779....	Molly, daughter of Abel, Jr., and Elizabeth Gold.
Jan. 18, 1778....	Priscilla, daughter of Deodate and Catherine Silliman.	March 7, 1779....	Huldah, daughter of Daniel and Lois Dimon.
Jan. 18, 1778....	Nathaniel Silliman, son of Israel and Hannah Bibbins.	March 21, 1779....	Hannah, daughter of Levi and Sarah Mallery.
Feb. 15, 1778....	Hannah, daughter of Justin and Hannah Hobart.	March 28, 1779....	Sally, daughter of Abel and Amelia Gold.
March 8, 1778....	Mary Annable.	April 18, 1779....	Seth, son of Gershom and Griz- zel Osborn.
April 15, 1778....	Michael, son of Matthew and Rebecca Jennings.	May 2, 1779....	Jonathan, son of Jonathan and Molly Darrow.
April 15, 1778....	Eunice, daughter of Isaac and Sarah Morehouse.	May 2, 1779....	Sally, daughter of Peter and Eu- nice Jennings.
April 15, 1778....	Peggy, a negro child, belonging to Matthew Jennings.	May 9, 1779....	Daniel Beers, son of David and Mary Osborn.
April 15, 1778....	Pomp, a negro child, belonging to Matthew Jennings.	June 6, 1779....	Isaac, son of Joseph and Grizzel Bulkley.
April 26, 1778....	Mabel, daughter of Peter and Sarah Perry.		Clarina, daughter of Joseph and Grizzel Bulkley.
May 10, 1778....	David, son of Nehemiah and Lydia Phippeny.	June 6, 1779....	James Chester, son of Jonathan and Hannah Bulkley.
May 10, 1778....	Tom, a negro child, offered by Gold Selleck Silliman.	June 12, 1779....	Sarah, daughter of Ellen and Lothrop Lewis.
June 14, 1778....	Abijah, son of Abijah and Mary Morehouse.	June 13, 1779....	Samuel, son of John and Eunice Smedley.
July 5, 1778....	Primus, a negro child, belong- ing to Jonathan Darrow, of- fered by Nero, his father.	June 27, 1779....	Hannah, daughter of Eleazer, Jr., and Sarah Osborn.
July 12, 1778....	Edward, son of David and Sarah Allen.	July 11, 1779....	Dorcas, negro servant to Deacon Bulkley.
July 12, 1778....	Ezra Hawley, son of Ezra and Martha Jennings.	July 11, 1779....	Primus, Kate and Nance, negro children, servants to Deacon Bulkley; offered by him and Sarah, his wife (baptized at the house of Deacon Bulkley).
July 26, 1778....	Levi, son of Moses and Abigail Jennings.	Aug. 15, 1779....	Mary, daughter of James and Elizabeth Bulkley; baptized at the house of Peter Perry.
Aug. 2, 1778....	William, son of Jeremiah and Elizabeth Jennings.	Aug. 15, 1779....	Jonathan, son of Walter and Ruth Buddington, at the house of Peter Perry.
Aug. 2, 1778....	Abraham, son of Jeremiah and Elizabeth Jennings.	Aug. 31, 1779....	Mary, daughter of Nehemiah and Lydia Phippeny.
Aug. 2, 1778....	Betsey, daughter of Jeremiah and Elizabeth Jennings.		
Aug. 16, 1778....	Eunice Burr, daughter of An- drew and Mary Eliot.		
Sept. 4, 1778....	Mabel, daughter of Charles and — Burr.		

- Sept. 12, 1779....Sarah Wilson, daughter of Samuel, Jr., and Ann Squire.
- Sept. 12, 1779....Andrew Eliot, son of Joseph and Sarah Squire.  
Both the above in the house of Elizabeth Morehouse—Jennings Woods.
- Sept. 19, 1779....Hannah, daughter of David and Mehitabel Jennings.
- Sept. 19, 1779....Henry, son of Ebenezer and Anne Wakeman.
- Nov. 28, 1779....Phoebe, daughter of Israel and Abigail Jennings.
- Dec. 5, 1779....Elizabeth, daughter of Ebenezer and Sarah Sturges.
- Dec. 9, 1779....Sarah, daughter of Peter and Esther Burr.
- Dec. 26, 1779....Samuel, son of Isaac and Sarah Morehouse—Jennings Woods.
- Feb. 13, 1780....Elizabeth, daughter of Jonathan and Deborah Sturges.
- Feb. 20, 1780....Mary, daughter of Ebenezer and Mary Squire.
- Feb. 20, 1780....Amos, son of Robin and Dorcas.
- March 19, 1780....Parthena, daughter of Seth and Ruth Morehouse—Jennings Woods.
- March 26, 1780....Phebe, daughter of Joseph and Christian Silliman.
- March 26, 1780....Andrew, son of Jeremiah and Elizabeth Jennings.
- March 26, 1780....Stephen, son of Stephen and Grizzel Osborn.
- March 26, 1780....Daniel, son of Josiah and Abigail Beardslee.
- April 2, 1780....Peter Hendrick, son of Wright and Esther White.
- April 9, 1780....Seth, son of Peter and Sarah Perry.
- May 14, 1780....Burr, son of Ichabod and — Gold.
- May 28, 1780....Mary Silliman, daughter of Daniel and Sarah Wilson—Jennings Woods.
- May 28, 1780....Jesse, son of Ezra and Martha Jennings—Jennings Woods.
- July 9, 1780....Ebenezer, son of Nathan, Jr., and Mehitabel Beers.
- Aug. 20, 1780....Andrew, son of Andrew and Mary Eliot.
- Oct. 29, 1780....Samuel, son of Samuel and Sarah Beers.
- Nov., 1780....Toney, son of Toney, servant to Abel Gold, and Dorcas, servant to Deacon Bulkley.
- Nov. 12, 1780....Sturges, son of John and — Penfield.
- Dec. 16, 1780....Hannah, daughter of Nehemiah and Sarah Burr.
- Dec. 17, 1780....Walter, son of Walter and Ruth Buddington.
- Jan. 14, 1781....Anne, daughter of Daniel and Lois Dimon.
- Jan. 28, 1781....Sturges, son of John and Jane Parsons.
- Jan. 28, 1781....Sarah, daughter of Jabez and Rhoda Hubbel.
- Feb. 19, 1781....Jemmy, son of Andrew and Elizabeth Rowland.
- March 4, 1781....John Sloss, son of Justin and Hannah Hobart.
- March 11, 1781....Sherwood, son of Gershom and Grizzel Osborn.
- March 11, 1781....Anna, daughter of Lothrop and Ellen Lewis.
- April 8, 1781....Rowland Hughes, son of Wright and Esther White.
- April 15, 1781....Gold, son of Abijah and Mary Morehouse.
- April 29, 1781....David, son of David and Mary Osborn.
- April 29, 1781....Abigail, daughter of Israel and Hannah Bibbins.
- May 6, 1781....Mary, daughter of Eleazer, Jr., and Sarah Osborn.
- May 6, 1781....Esther, daughter of Eleazer, Jr., and Sarah Osborn.
- June 10, 1781....Elizabeth, daughter of Stephen and Grizzel Osborn.
- June 10, 1781....Isaac Howes, son of John and Mary Osborn.
- June 17, 1781....Joseph, son of Joseph and Sarah Squire.
- July 1, 1781....Betsey, daughter of Reuben and Abigail Sherwood.
- Aug. 26, 1781....Daniel, son of Seth and Ruth Morehouse.
- Sept. 2, 1781....Freeland, son of Levi and Sarah Mallery.
- Oct. 7, 1781....Joseph, son of Peter and Hannah Penfield.
- Oct. 14, 1781....Joseph, son of Ebenezer and Sarah Sturges.
- Oct. 14, 1781....Joseph Bartram, son of John and Elizabeth Wasson.
- Nov. 11, 1781....Lucretia Burr, daughter of Jonathan and Deborah Sturges.
- Nov. 11, 1781....Abraham Gold, son of Isaac and Abigail Jennings.
- Dec. 2, 1781....Andrew, son of Ebenezer and Mary Squire.
- Dec. 23, 1781....Heathcote Muirson, son of Elizabeth Penfield.
- Jan. 22, 1782....Abigail, daughter of Samuel and Abigail Sturges.
- Feb. 10, 1782....Patty Nancy, daughter of William and Phoebe Silliman.
- March 12, 1782....Jesse Weeks, of Huntington, Long Island, was baptized on his bed at the house of Mr. Brown, at Mill River.
- April 12, 1782....Simon, son of Fortune and Time,

		a negro servant to Howes Osborne.	Jan. 19, 1783....	Sally, daughter of Abigail Burr.
April 14, 1782....	Eunice, daughter of Peter and Sarah Perry.		Feb. 2, 1783....	Polly and Esther, daughters of Dimon and Sarah Sturges.
April 14, 1782....	Sarah, daughter of Hezekiah and Anne Nichols.		Feb. 5, 1783....	Aaron, son of John and Hannah Perry.
April 28, 1782....	Susanna, daughter of David and Mehitabel Jennings.		Feb. 23, 1783....	Sally, daughter of Nehemiah and Abia Fowler.
May 5, 1782....	Thomas Handford, son of Ebenezer and Anne Wakeman.		Feb. 24, 1783....	Sally, daughter of Gershom and Grizzel Osborn.
May 26, 1782....	Philip, son of Robin and Dorcas.		March 2, 1783....	Eunice, daughter of Peter and Esther Burr.
June 24, 1782....	Betsey, daughter of Abraham and Mary Perry.		April 6, 1783....	Polly, daughter of Alexander, and Ward, son of Joseph and Grizzel Bulkley.
June 27, 1782....	John, son of David and Sarah Squire.		April 13, 1783....	Thomas, Nancy, Henry Judson, Harriet and Abigail, children of Judson and Abigail Sturges.
June 28, 1782....	Hill, grandson of David and Elizabeth Patchin.		April 20, 1783....	Squire, son of Aaron and Sarah Turney.
July 14, 1782....	Sarah, daughter of David and Mary Dickenson.		April 28, 1783....	Priamus, a negro male child, offered by Thaddeus Burr, Esq., and Eunice, his wife.
July 21, 1782....	Sue, servant to Gold Selleck Silliman, Esq.		May 4, 1783....	Henry, son of Abijah and Mary Morehouse.
July 21, 1782....	Lois, daughter of Tego and Sue.		May 4, 1783....	Peter, son of Edmund and Olive Burr.
July 28, 1782....	Eli, son of Quash and Rose.		May 18, 1783....	Rachel, daughter of Tego and Sue.
Aug. 18, 1782....	Esther, daughter of John and Eunice Smedley.		May 7, 1783....	Jacob, child of Thomas and Susanna Aylwood.
Aug. 25, 1782....	Abigail, daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth Maltby.		May 21, 1783....	Jacob, son of Jacob and Elizabeth June.
Aug. 25, 1782....	John Squire, son of David and Sarah Wilson.		June 15, 1783....	Walter, son of Reuben and Abigail Sherwood.
Sept. 4, 1782....	Ephraim, son of Ezra and Martha Jennings.		June 18, 1783....	Joseph and Morehouse, twin sons of Joseph and Elizabeth Bulkley.
Sept. 4, 1782....	David, Erastus, Enos and Sarah, children of David and Sarah Squire.		July 27, 1783....	Priscilla, daughter of Jonathan and Deborah Sturges.
Sept. 4, 1782....	Catherine, daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth Knap.		July 27, 1783....	Azor, son of Stephen and Grizzel Osborn.
Sept. 4, 1782....	Sarah, daughter of Isaac and Sarah Morehouse.		Aug. 3, 1783....	Cato, a male child, and Luce, a female, two negro children offered by Jonathan Sturges.
Sept. 4, 1782....	Ama, a negro child, offered by Rebecca Jennings.		Oct. 24, 1783....	Polly, daughter of David and Mary Dickenson.
Oct. 13, 1782....	Sarah, daughter of Joseph and Sarah Squire.		Oct. 26, 1783....	William, son of Jabez and Susanna Perry.
Oct. 27, 1782....	Anna, daughter of William and Anne Morehouse.		Nov. 2, 1783....	David, son of Peter and Mary Hull.
Nov. 3, 1782....	Sarah, daughter of Andrew and Mary Eliot.		Dec. 7, 1783....	Edward, son of Walter and Ruth Buddington.
Nov. 3, 1782....	James, son of Jabez and Rhoda Hubbel.		Dec. 7, 1783....	Toney, a negro male child, offered by Mrs. Anne Dimon.
Nov. 3, 1782....	Patience, daughter of Chauncy and Carolina Matilda Wheeler.		Dec. 14, 1783....	Eunice, daughter of David and Sally Ogden.
Nov. 3, 1782....	John, son of John and Mary Osborn.		Dec. 29, 1783....	Eunice, daughter of John and Rue Robinson.
Nov. 3, 1782....	Abigail, daughter of Nathan and Mehitabel Beers.		Jan. 4, 1784....	Bradley, son of Peter and Sarah Perry.
Dec. 1, 1782....	Stephen, son of David and Sarah Allen.		Feb. 8, 1784....	Eunice, daughter of William and Molly Pike.
Dec. 1, 1782....	Grizzel, daughter of John and Anne Williams.			
Dec. 18, 1782....	Lois, daughter of Nathaniel, Jr., and Ruth Wilson.			
Dec. 29, 1782....	John Jackson, son of John and Elizabeth Wasson.			



- Feb. 24, 1784....Samuel, son of Stephen, Jr., and Ellen Addams.
- Feb. 24, 1784....Samuel, son of Isaac and Sarah Morehouse.
- Feb. 24, 1784....Nathaniel Fayerweather, son of Benjamin and Elizabeth Knap.
- Feb. 29, 1784....Debby, daughter of Levi and Sarah Mallery.
- Feb. 29, 1784....Phoebe, daughter of Joshua and Abigail Davis.
- March 21, 1784....William, son of Ebenezer and Mary Squire.
- April 4, 1784....Anna, daughter of Peter and Esther Burr.
- April 11, 1784....<sup>1</sup>William, son of Jonathan and Elizabeth Maltby.
- April 16, 1784....Ebenezer, son of William and Eunice Burr.
- May 2, 1784....James, son of John and Elizabeth Wasson.
- May 2, 1784....Anna, daughter of Nathan and Mary Jennings.
- June 6, 1784....John, son of Ezra and Martha Jennings.
- June 6, 1784....Henry Lewis, son of Nathaniel and Rachel Penfield.
- June 20, 1784....Jerusha Talcot, daughter of John and Mary Osborn.
- June 27, 1784....Clarissa, daughter of Samuel, Jr., and Abigail Burr.
- June 27, 1784....Lucretia, daughter of Samuel, Jr., and Abigail Burr.
- July 4, 1784....Samuel, son of Joseph and Sarah Squire.
- Aug. 29, 1784....Sarah, daughter, and William, son, twin children of William and Anne Morehouse.
- Aug. 29, 1784....Huldah, daughter of Chauncey and Carolina Matilda Wheeler.
- Sept. 12, 1784....Eunice, daughter of Daniel and Lois Dimon.
- Sept. 12, 1784....Sarah, daughter of Joseph and Grizzel Bulkley.
- Oct. 10, 1784....Joseph Fish, son of Joseph and Amelia Noyes.
- Oct. 17, 1784....Eben Perry, son of Dimon and Sarah Sturges.
- Oct. 24, 1784....Nathan, son of Nathan and Mehitabel Beers.
- Oct. 24, 1784....Sarah, daughter of Joseph and Sarah Sturges.
- Nov. 21, 1784....Gideon, son of Gideon and Hannah Hawley.
- Nov. 21, 1784....Samuel, son of Abel, Jr., and Elizabeth Gold.
- Dec. 11, 1784....Mary, daughter of John, Jr., and Mary Knap.
- Jan. 9, 1785....Joseph, son of David and Sarah Allen.
- Jan. 9, 1785....Susanna, daughter of Jabez and Susanna Perry.
- Jan. 9, 1785....Toney, son of Toney and Dorcas.
- Jan. 23, 1785....Sally, daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth June.
- Feb. 20, 1785....Elizabeth, daughter of Lothrop and Ellen Lewis.
- Feb. 27, 1785....Esther, daughter of George and Huldah Allen.
- March 20, 1785....Eben, son of Peter and Eunice Jennings.
- March 20, 1785....Elizabeth, daughter of Wright and Esther White.
- March 20, 1785....David, son of David and — Redfield.
- April 10, 1785....Josiah, son of Samuel, Jr., and Abigail Burr.
- May 1, 1785....Sarah, daughter of Caleb and Anna Brewster.
- May 1, 1785....John, son of William and Molly Pike.
- May 15, 1785....Benjamin, son of Abijah and Mary Morehouse.
- May 15, 1785....Ephraim, son of Jeremiah and Elizabeth Jennings.
- May 15, 1785....Samuel, son of Walter and Ruth Buddington.
- May 15, 1785....Mary, daughter of Abraham Crozier and Eunice Woodhull.
- May 15, 1785....Deborah, daughter of Benjamin and Esther Dickenson.
- May 15, 1785....Dimon, son of Peter and Mary Hull.
- June 12, 1785....Amelia, daughter of William and Eunice Burr.
- June 19, 1785....William Bennet, son of Ezra and Martha Jennings.
- June 19, 1785....Amos, son of Tego and Sue.
- June 26, 1785....David, son of Jesse and Ellen Burr.
- July 10, 1785....Josiah, son of Nathaniel and Rachel Penfield.
- July 17, 1785....Annie, daughter of Quash and Rose.
- July 31, 1785....Ruth Martha, daughter of Andrew and Mary Eliot.
- Aug. 28, 1785....Anna, daughter of Isaac and Abigail Jennings.
- Sept. 4, 1785....Grizzel, daughter of Gershom and Grizzel Osborn.
- Nov. 20, 1785....Nanny, a negro child, offered by Mrs. Sarah Bibbins.
- Nov. 27, 1785....Betsey, daughter of Ebenezer and Mary Squire.
- Jan. 29, 1786....Bradley, son of Peter and Sarah Perry.
- Feb. 19, 1786....Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph and Sarah Squire.
- Feb. 26, 1786....Hannah and Sally, daughters of Israel and Hannah Bibbins.
- Feb. 26, 1786....Sally, daughter of Reuben and Abigail Sherwood.
- March 26, 1786....Aaron Rawlins.
- March 26, 1786....Ruthy and Eunice, daughters of Paul and Sarah Nichols.

March 26, 1786....Esther, daughter of Peter and Esther Burr.  
 March 26, 1786....Eunice, daughter of Aaron and Mary Rawlins.  
 March 26, 1786....Chary, daughter of David and Sally Ogden.  
 April 16, 1786....Chary, daughter of Stephen and Grizzel Osborn.  
 April 16, 1786....Eliphalet, son of Stephen and Sarah Stratton.  
 April 16, 1786....Andrew, son of Abel and Deborah Turney.  
 June 4, 1786....Levi, son of Levi and Sarah Mallery.  
 June 4, 1786....Adad and Medad, twin sons of Joseph and Elizabeth Bulkley.  
 June 18, 1786....Stephen, son of Aaron and Sarah Turney.  
 June 18, 1786....Mary, daughter of Joseph and Sarah Hayes.  
 June 18, 1786....Ruth, daughter of Stephen and Ellen Adams.  
 June 18, 1786....Priscilla, daughter of Moses and Sarah Hull.  
 June 18, 1786....David, son of Chauncey and Carolina Matilda Wheeler.  
 July 9, 1786....William, son of Peter and Mary Hull.  
 Aug. 6, 1786....Stephen, son of Abel, Jr., and Elizabeth Gold.  
 Aug. 13, 1786....John, son of Joseph and Amelia Noyes.  
 Aug. 20, 1786....Isaac, son of Joseph and Aurelia Darling.  
 Sept. 3, 1786....Walter, son of Joseph and Eunice Stratton.  
 Sept. 3, 1786....Betsey and Nabby, daughters of Samuel and Grace Stratton.  
 Sept. 3, 1786....James, son of Solomon and Amelia Sturges.  
 Sept. 10, 1786....Eunice, daughter of Ebenezer and Sarah Sturges.  
 Sept. 10, 1786....Esther, daughter of David and — Redfield.  
 June, 1786....Mary Anne, daughter of William and Eunice Richards of New London.  
 Sept. 24, 1786....Anna Annable.  
 Sept. 24, 1786....Mary Tucker.  
 Sept. 24, 1786....Phebe Sturges.  
 Sept. 24, 1786....Eunice, daughter of Joseph and Grizzel Bulkley.  
 Nov. 19, 1786....Polly, daughter of Nathan and Mary Jennings.  
 Nov. 26, 1786....Uriah, son of Jesse and Ellen Burr.  
 Nov. 26, 1786....Jonathan, son of Eleazer and Mary Bulkley.  
 Nov. 30, 1786....Thomas, son of Ezra and Martha Jennings.  
 Nov. 30, 1786....Jonathan Maltby, son, and Mary, daughter of Samuel, Jr., and Anne Squire.

Nov. 30, 1786....Wilson, son, and Mary, daughter, of David and Sarah Squire.  
 Nov. 30, 1786....Catherine, daughter of Amos and Ellen Wilson.  
 Nov. 30, 1786....Robert, son, and Elizabeth and Ruth, daughters, of Ebenezer and Mary Knap.  
 Nov. 30, 1786....Nathaniel, son, and Ruth and Sally, daughters of Abraham and Ruth Morehouse.  
 Nov. 30, 1786....Charity, daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth Knap.  
 Nov. 30, 1786....Priscilla and Nancy, two negro children, offered by Mrs Rebecca Jennings.  
 The fifteen last baptized at a lecture in the house of Mrs. Catherine Wilson.  
 Dec. 17, 1786....Jonathan Lewis, son of Caleb and Anna Brewster.  
 Dec. 31, 1786....Wright Weeks.  
 Dec. 31, 1786....William, son of William and Molly Pike.  
 Jan. 7, 1787....Jonathan, son of Lathrop and Ellen Lewis.  
 Jan. 7, 1787....Joseph Perry, son of Wright and Mary Weeks.  
 Jan. 7, 1787....James, son of Joshua and Abigail Davis.  
 Jan. 28, 1787....David, son, Sarah, daughter, and Ebenezer, son, of William and Esther (deceased) Dimon.  
 Jan. 28, 1787....Clary, daughter of Josiah and Eunice Patchin.  
 Jan. 28, 1787....Sarah, daughter of Dimon and Sarah Sturges.  
 Feb. 1, 1787....Ruth, the wife of Nathaniel Wilson, Jr., at a lecture in Jennings Woods, at the house of Nathaniel Wilson, Jr.  
 Feb. 1, 1787....Ruth Sarah Silliman and Mary, daughters of John, Jr., and Mary Knap.  
 Feb. 1, 1787....Seth Silliman, son of Nathaniel, Jr., and Ruth Wilson.  
 Feb. 26, 1787....Oliver, son of Ephraim and Sarah Robbins.  
 March 25, 1787....Polly, daughter of Nathan, Jr., and Mehitabel Beers.  
 April 1, 1787....James, son of Jabez and Susanna Perry.  
 April 14, 1787....Abel, son of Daniel and Lois Dimon.  
 April 14, 1787....Abigail, daughter of Ebenezer and Mary Squire.  
 May 6, 1787....Joseph, son of Abraham and Ruth Morehouse.  
 May 7, 1787....Chary, a female child, offered by Nathaniel and Hannah Pierson.  
 May 20, 1787....Stephen, son of William and Anne Morehouse.

May 20, 1787....	Cloe, a negro child, offered by Mrs. Abigail, the widow of Judson Sturges.	Aug. 3, 1788....	Hannah, daughter of Stephen and Mary Fowler.
July 8, 1787....	Sarah, daughter of David and Sarah Allen.	Aug. 3, 1788....	Elizabeth, daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth June.
July 29, 1787....	Nathan Burroughs, son of Nathan and Anna Whiting.	Aug. 31, 1788....	Chretia, daughter of Abijah and Mary Morehouse.
July 29, 1787....	Anna, daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth Maltby.	Aug. 31, 1788....	John, son of George and Huldah Allen.
Aug. 2, 1787....	Ruthy, daughter of Walter and Ruth Buddington.	Nov. 16, 1788....	Wakeman, son of Wakeman and Mary Burr.
Aug. 5, 1787....	Eunice, daughter of William and Eunice Burr.	Nov. 16, 1788....	Selleck and Silas, twin sons of Paul and Sarah Nichols.
Aug. 12, 1787....	Cloe, daughter of Tego and Sue.	Nov. 16, 1788....	James, son of Joseph and Amelia Noyes.
Aug. 26, 1787....	Mary, daughter of John and Mary Osborn.	Nov. 16, 1788....	Chretia, daughter of Aaron and Mary Rawlins.
Sept. 9, 1787....	Cloe, daughter of Toney and Dorcas.	Nov. 23, 1788....	Walter, son of David and Sally Ogden.
Sept. 30, 1787....	Jemmy, son of Solomon and Amelia Sturges.	Nov. 30, 1788....	Stephen, son of Jabez and Susanna Perry.
Nov. 4, 1787....	Ephraim and James, sons of Hezekiah and Mary Burr.	Nov. 30, 1788....	Joseph, son of William and Mary Sturges.
Nov. 4, 1787....	Alden, son of John, Jr., and Sarah Wilson.	Dec. 7, 1788....	Isaac, son of Isaac and Abigail Jennings.
Nov. 4, 1787....	Lewis, son of Joseph and Eunice Stratton.	Dec. 14, 1788....	Sarah, daughter of Josiah and Eunice Patchin.
Nov. 11, 1787....	Ruthy, daughter of James, Jr., and Mary Penfield.	Jan. 8, 1789....	Phillis, a negro child, offered by Mr. George Allen.
Dec. 2, 1787....	Harriet, daughter of Paul and Mabel Sheffield.	Jan. 11, 1789....	Burr, son of Ebenezer and Mary Squire.
Dec. 9, 1787....	Debby, daughter of Hezekiah and Ellen Gold.	Jan. 11, 1789....	Wilson, son of Ebenezer and Mary Knap.
Feb. 3, 1788....	Sarah, daughter of Wright and Esther White.	Jan. 11, 1789....	Joseph, son of Joseph and Sarah Hayes.
March 23, 1788....	Nabby, daughter of Samuel, Jr., and Abigail Burr.	Jan. 18, 1789....	Sally, daughter of James, Jr., and Mary Penfield.
March 30, 1788....	Abigail, daughter of Ebenezer and Hannah Bulkley.	March 8, 1789....	Sturges, son of Caleb and Anna Brewster.
April 6, 1788....	Poll, daughter of Peter and Sarah Perry.	April 26, 1789....	Hannah, daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth Maltby.
April 13, 1788....	Sarah and Mary, daughters, John and George, sons, of Ebenezer and Hannah Bulkley.	May 24, 1789....	Anson, son of Abraham and Ruth Morehouse.
May 18, 1788....	Alfred, son of Joe and Sarah Perry.	May 31, 1789....	Dimon, son of Dimon and Sarah Sturges.
June 8, 1788....	Anna, daughter of Peter and Mary Hull.	May 31, 1789....	Ebenezer, son of Noah and — Beers.
June 8, 1788....	Ruth, daughter of Amos and Ellen Wilson.	June 2, 1789....	Ellen, daughter of Abel and Deborah Turney.
June 22, 1788....	Stephen, son of Aaron and Sarah Turney.	June 7, 1789....	George Hoyt, son of Samuel, Jr., and Hannah Penfield.
June 22, 1788....	Anna, daughter of Joseph and Grizzel Bulkley.	June 21, 1789....	Robert, son of Nathaniel and Rachel Penfield.
July 6, 1788....	Samuel Warner, son of Ezra and Martha Jennings.	July 19, 1789....	David Ogden, son of Edward and Elizabeth Sturges.
July 6, 1788....	Thanael Perry, son of Nathan, Jr., and Mehitabel Beers.	Aug. 9, 1789....	Sarah, daughter of Levi and Sarah Mallery.
July 13, 1788....	Richard, son of William and Molly Pike.	Aug. 9, 1789....	Daniel, son of Asa and Polly Turney.
July 13, 1788....	Samuel, son of Elnathan and — Smith.	Aug. 16, 1789....	Charlotte, daughter of Nathan and Mary Jennings.
July 13, 1788....	Job, son of Tego and Sue.	Aug. 16, 1789....	Eliphalet Thorp, son of Paul and Mabel Sheffield.

- Aug. 16, 1789....Rhoda, daughter of Quash and Rose.
- Aug. 23, 1789....William, son of Miah and Elizabeth Perry.
- Sept. 6, 1789....Phebe, daughter of Chauncey and Carolina Matilda Wheeler.
- Sept. 20, 1789....Anna, daughter of John and Mary Osborn.
- Oct. 4, 1789....Reuben, son of Reuben and Abigail Sherwood.
- Oct. 4, 1789....Peggy, daughter of Wright and Mary Weeks.
- Oct. 22, 1789....Esther, daughter of Walcot and Joanna Bennet.
- Oct. 25, 1789....Sukey, daughter of Elnathan and — Smith.
- Nov. 22, 1789....Abigail, daughter of Peter and Esther Burr.
- Dec. 13, 1789....Andrew, son of Eleazer and Mary Bulkley.
- Dec. 20, 1789....Sally and Chary, daughters of Talcot and Anna Gold.
- Jan. 3, 1790....Susanna, daughter of William and Eunice Burr.
- Jan. 17, 1790....Maretta, daughter of Solomon and Amelia Sturges.
- March 28, 1790....Betsey, daughter of Peter and Sarah Perry.
- March 30, 1790....Mary Bartram, daughter of Daniel, Jr., and Mary Osborn.
- April 25, 1790....Samuel Lewis, son of Samuel, Jr., and Hannah Penfield.
- May 2, 1790....Henry, son of Samuel, Jr., and Abigail Burr.
- May 2, 1790....Sarah, daughter of Joshua and Abigail Davis.
- May 9, 1790....Polly, daughter of William and Molly Pike.
- May 30, 1790....Jacob, a negro male child, offered by William and Molly Pike.
- June 13, 1790....Anna, daughter of Joseph and Grizzel Bulkley.
- June 20, 1790....Boston, a negro male child, offered by Deacon Bulkley and Sarah, his wife.
- July 4, 1790....William, son of Walter and Ruth Buddington.
- July 4, 1790....Elizabeth, daughter of Abraham and Anna Gold.
- July 18, 1790....Charles, son of Joseph and Sarah Squire.
- Aug. 1, 1790....Hannah Tucker.
- Aug. 1, 1790....Sarah Smith.
- Aug. 1, 1790....Abigail and Esther, daughters of Isaac and Abigail Jarvis.
- Aug. 1, 1790....Frederick, son of Barlow and Eunice Sturges.
- Aug. 1, 1790....William, son of William and Esther Squire.
- Aug. 1, 1790....Zalmon, son of John and Eunice Godfrey.
- Aug. 8, 1790....Anna, daughter of Caleb and Anna Brewster.
- Aug. 29, 1790....Sophia, daughter of John and Elizabeth Wasson.
- Sept. 5, 1790....Benjamin, son of Amos and Ellen Wasson.
- Oct. 7, 1790....John, son of David and Elizabeth Patchin, at a lecture in the house of David Patchin.
- Oct. 6, 1790....Mary, a daughter of David and Elizabeth Patchin, at a lecture in the house of David Patchin.
- Oct. 7, 1790....Ephraim, grandson of David and Elizabeth Patchin, at a lecture in the house of David Patchin.
- Oct. 7, 1790....Joseph, son of Walcot and Joanna Bennet, at the house of David Patchin, at a lecture there.
- Oct. 7, 1790....David, son of Walcot and Joanna Bennet, at a lecture in the house of David Patchin.
- Oct. 7, 1790....Ellen, daughter of Walcot and Joanna Bennet, at a lecture in the house of David Patchin.
- Oct. 7, 1790....Ruth, daughter of Stephen and Ellen Adams, at a lecture in the house of David Patchin. The real name of this child is Polly, but the father, through mistake, or being disconcerted, spoke it Ruth. They have a daughter named Ruth, who was baptized June 18th, 1786.
- Oct. 17, 1790....Joseph Strong, son of Stephen and Mary Fowler.
- Oct. 17, 1790....Jerusha, daughter of Josiah and Eunice Patchin.
- Nov. 21, 1790....Sarah Dimon, daughter of William and Mary Sturges.
- Dec. 5, 1790....Susanna, daughter of Andrew and Mary Eliot.
- Dec. 5, 1790....Wakeman, son of James, Jr., and Mary Penfield.
- Dec. 19, 1790....Anna, daughter of Aaron and Mary Rawlins.
- Dec. 1790....Jenny, daughter of Toney and Dorcas Freeman.
- Dec. 26, 1790....George, son of George and Huldah Allen.
- Jan. 2, 1791....Thaddeus, son of Gershom and Susanna Burr.
- Jan. 16, 1791....Ebenezer, son of Ebenezer and Sarah Sturges.
- Jan. 23, 1791....Polly, daughter of Ebenezer and Mary Knap.
- Feb. 20, 1791....Betsey, daughter of Squire and Lydia Nichols.
- Feb. 27, 1791....Seth, son of Isaac and Abigail Jennings.



- March 21, 1791....Hannah, daughter of Daniel and Abigail Barlow.
- March 31, 1791....Abel, son of Isaac and Ellen Gold.
- March 31, 1791....Meliora, daughter of Nathan Adams and Phebe Hayes.
- May 8, 1791....Phebe Curtis, daughter of Asa and Polly Turney.
- May 29, 1791....James, son of Nathan, Jr., and Mehitabel Beers.
- June 5, 1791....Elizabeth, daughter of Miah and Elizabeth Perry.
- June 12, 1791....Jesse, son of Aaron and Sarah Turney.
- June 12, 1791....Levi, son of Abel and Deborah Turney.
- June 12, 1791....Silliman, son of Hezekiah and Mary Burr.
- June 26, 1791....Esther Mary, daughter of George and Anna Raymond.
- July 1, 1791....Camilla, daughter of George and Irene Squire.
- July 3, 1791....Jerusha, daughter of Tego and Sue.
- Aug. 7, 1791....Eliphalet, son of William and Molly Pike.
- Sept. 18, 1791....Mary, daughter of Peter and Esther Burr.
- Sept. 18, 1791....William, son of Ebenezer and Mary Squire.
- Sept. 18, 1791....Joseph, son of John and Mary Osborn.
- Oct. 2, 1791....Eunice, daughter of Abraham Cooper and Eunice Woodhull.
- Oct. 2, 1791....Loretta, daughter of Nathaniel and Cloe Silliman.
- Oct. 9, 1791....Melissa, daughter of Paul and Sarah Nichols.
- Oct. 16, 1791....Samuel, son of Joseph and Amelia Noyes.
- Oct. 16, 1791....Gold, son of Gold and Esther Silliman.
- Oct. 16, 1791....Eunice, George, William, Phebe and Betsey, children of George and Irene Squire.
- Nov. 6, 1791....David, son of Joseph and Grizel Bulkley.
- Nov. 13, 1791....Robert, son of John and Elizabeth Wasson.
- Nov. 20, 1791....Rhoda, daughter of Quash and Rose.
- Nov. 24, 1791....William, son of William and Eunice Burr.
- Dec., 1791....Mehitabel, daughter of Joseph and Sarah Squire.
- Dec. 4, 1791....Elizabeth, daughter of David and Susanna Hull.
- Dec. 4, 1791....Harriet, daughter of David and Sally Ogden.
- Dec. 11, 1791....Anna Meriam, daughter of Levi and Sarah Mallory.
- Jan. 8, 1792....Frederick, son of Abijah and Mary Morehouse.
- Feb. 5, 1792....Sarah, daughter of Samuel and Esther Staples.
- Feb. 5, 1792....Candace, a negro female child, offered by Capt. John Wasson and his wife.
- Feb. 19, 1792....Polly, daughter of Dimon and Sarah Sturges.
- March 24, 1792....John Barry, son of Thomas and Susanna Elwood.
- April, 1792....Melinda, daughter of Paul and Mabel Sheffield.
- May 1, 1792....Daniel Wilson, son of David and Sarah Squire.
- May 1, 1792....Abigail Maltby, daughter of David and Sarah Squire, at a lecture at Black Rock.
- May 1, 1792....Lois, daughter of Chauncey and Carolina Matilda Wheeler, at a lecture at Black Rock.
- May 1, 1792....Susanna, Sarah Burr and Priscilla, daughters of Samuel and Sarah Sherwood, at a lecture at Black Rock.
- June 3, 1792....Joseph Pynchon, son of David and Martha Russel.
- June 3, 1792....Martha May, daughter of David and Martha Russel.
- June 17, 1792....Samuel, son of William and Jane Hayes.
- July 1, 1792....Abigail, daughter of David and Sarah Allen.
- July 15, 1792....Nathan, son of Nathan and Mary Jennings.
- Aug. 5, 1792....Sturges, son of Peter and Sarah Perry.
- Aug. 12, 1792....Elizabeth Burr, daughter of Caleb and Anna Brewster.
- Sept. 2, 1792....George Burr, son of Samuel and Priscilla Sherwood.
- Sept. 2, 1792....Mary Anne, daughter of Barnabas Lothrop and Mary Sturges.
- Sept. 9, 1792....Abigail, daughter of Joshua and Abigail Davis.
- Sept. 23, 1792....Mary, daughter of William and Mary Sturges.
- Oct. 14, 1792....Mary, daughter of James and Mary Penfield.
- Oct. 21, 1792....Abel, son of William and Esther Squire.
- Oct. 28, 1792....Fanny, daughter of Josiah and Eunice Patchin.
- Dec. 2, 1792....Dorcas, daughter of Christopher and Dinah.
- Dec. 16, 1792....Deborah, daughter of Walter and Mary Staples.
- Jan. 20, 1793....Henry, son of Wright and Mary Weeks.
- Jan. 27, 1793....Susanna, daughter of Gershom and Susanna Burr.
- March 10, 1793....Debby, daughter of John and Lydia Wheeler.

March 12, 1793....	Samuel Allen, son of Hezekiah and Anne Nichols.	June 8, 1794....	Bradley, son of Samuel and Amelia Sturges.
March 17, 1793....	Elizabeth, daughter of Nathan Adams and Phebe Hayes.	June 29, 1794....	Mary Howe, daughter of Rowland and Mary Spalding.
March 20, 1793....	Gold, son of George and Huldah Allen.	July 6, 1794....	George Augustus, son of John and Elizabeth Wasson.
March 23, 1793....	Daniel, son of Abraham, Jr., and Sarah Morehouse.	July 13, 1794....	Lot, son of Eleazer and Mary Bulkley.
April 1, 1793....	Nance, a young negro servant to Ezekiel and Sarah Hull, offered by them.	July 27, 1794....	George, son of Levi and Sarah Mallory.
April 14, 1793....	Lucy Anne, daughter of Squire and Lydia Nichols.	July 27, 1794....	Isaac Lathrop, son of Gershom and Susanna Burr.
May 12, 1793....	Rana, daughter to Abel and Sherwood.	Aug. 10, 1794....	Isaac, son of William and Esther Squire.
May 12, 1793....	William, son to Miah and Elizabeth Perry.	Sept. 21, 1794....	Betsey, daughter of William and Mary Sturges.
June 2, 1793....	Nancy, daughter of William and Jane Hayes.	Sept. 21, 1794....	Edward, son of York and Kate, offered by Mrs. Sarah Bulkley.
June 9, 1793....	Anna, daughter of Joseph and Grizzel Bulkley.	Sept. 21, 1794....	Ned, son of Christopher and Dinah, offered by Mr. Gershom Burr.
June 9, 1793....	Laura, daughter of Edmund and Olive Burr.	Sept. 28, 1794....	Anna, twin daughter of Ebenezer and Anna Silliman.
June 12, 1793....	Joseph, son of Andrew and Eunice Wakeman.	Sept. 28, 1794....	Lothrop Lewis, son of Barnabas Lathrop and Mary Sturges.
June 23, 1793....	Esther, daughter of Abel and Deborah Turney.	Oct. 10, 1794....	Seth Burr, son of William and Anne Morehouse.
Aug. 4, 1793....	John Hall, son of Daniel, Jr., and Mary Osborn.	Oct. 12, 1794....	Ephraim Hull, son of Peter and Esther Burr.
July 21, 1793....	Ichabod Wheeler, son of Ebenezer and Mary Squire.	Oct. 12, 1794....	Walter, son of David and Sally Ogden.
Aug. 4, 1793....	Barlow, son of Barlow and Eunice Sturges.	Oct. 12, 1794....	Jenetta, daughter of William and Eunice Burr.
Oct. 20, 1793....	John, son of John and Eunice Godfrey.	Nov. 2, 1794....	John Barry, son of Thomas and Susanna Ellwood.
Dec. 1, 1793....	Polly, daughter of Isaac and Abigail Jennings.	Nov. 2, 1794....	Electa, daughter of Squire and Lydia Nichols.
Dec. 22, 1793....	Mary Anne, daughter of Joseph and Sarah Squire.	Nov. 9, 1794....	Maltby Bulkley, son of Abraham and Sarah Morehouse.
Jan. 20, 1794....	Jonathan, twin son of Ebenezer and Anna Silliman.	Nov. 16, 1794....	Susanna, daughter of David and Susanna Hull.
Jan. 21, 1794....	Eunice, Miranda and Wakeman, children of Walter and Ruamah Thorp.	Nov. 16, 1794....	Eliza, daughter of David and Thankful Sturges.
1794....	—, son of Benjamin and Elizabeth Knap.	Dec. 7, 1794....	Abigail, daughter of Reuben and Abigail Sherwood.
Jan. 21, 1794....	Joseph Earl, son of Paul and Mabel Sheffield.	Dec. 14, 1794....	Elbert, son of Walter and Elizabeth Burr Perry.
Feb. 16, 1794....	Rufus, son of Walter and Ruth Buddington.	Feb. 4, 1795....	Lydia, a mulatto child, offered by Ezekiel Hull and his wife.
March 23, 1794....	Rebecca, daughter of Joseph and Amelia Noyes.	Feb. 8, 1795....	Bradley, son of Daniel and Lois Dimon.
March 30, 1794....	Ellen, daughter of Abijah and Mary Morehouse.	Feb. 8, 1795....	Azariah, son of Medad and Elizabeth Gold.
Feb. 6, 1794....	Isaac, son of Abraham Cooper and Eunice Woodhull.	April 19, 1795....	John Americanus, a mulatto child, offered by Samuel Webb Stone and Mary, his wife.
May 25, 1794....	Abigail, daughter of Edward and Elizabeth Sturges.	April 19, 1795....	Sally Carson, daughter of Ebenezer and Mary Squire.
June 8, 1794....	Racilia, daughter of Caleb and Anna Brewster.	May 10, 1795....	Samuel Wakeman.
June 8, 1794....	Fanny, daughter of Samuel and Priscilla Sherwood.	May 10, 1795....	Elizabeth Burr.
		May 10, 1795....	Elizabeth Wakeman.

- May 10, 1795....Catherine Wakeman.  
 May 10, 1795....Elizabeth Rowland.  
 May 10, 1795....John, son of Samuel and Esther Staples.  
 May 10, 1795....Elizabeth Burr, daughter of Jason and Catherine Gold.  
 May 24, 1795....Sarah Dimon, daughter of Ebenezer and Sarah Burr.  
 May 31, 1795....Anson, son of Samuel and Lucy Squire.  
 June 14, 1795....Mehitabel Smith.  
 June 14, 1795....Abigail McRaa.  
 June 14, 1795....Cyrus, son of Aaron and Sarah Turney.  
 July 5, 1795....Sherwood, son of Benjamin and Martha Wilson.  
 Aug. 21, 1795....Andrew Bulkley, son of Nathaniel and Sarah Sturges.  
 Sept. 7, 1795....Ebenezer, son of Ebenezer and Anna Silliman.  
 Sept. 25, 1795....Jesse, son of Jesse and — Benedict.  
 Oct. 4, 1795....Francis, son of Joseph and Sarah Squire.  
 Oct. 4, 1795....Charles, son of Miah and Elizabeth Perry.  
 Oct. 11, 1795....William, son of Abel and Elizabeth Beers.  
 Oct. 17, 1795....Sam, son of Abel and Deborah Turney.  
 Nov. 1, 1795....Benjamin, son of Walter and Mary Staples.  
 Nov. 22, 1795....Burr, son of Abel and Mary Sherwood.  
 Nov. 22, 1795....David, son of Asa and Polly Turney.  
 Nov. 27, 1795....Isaac, son of Isaac and Mary Gold.  
 Nov. 27, 1795....Bradley, son of Isaac and Mary Gold.  
 Nov. 27, 1795....Philo, son of Edward and Elizabeth Sturges.  
 Feb. 7, 1796....Mary Anne, daughter of Wright and Mary Weeks.  
 Feb. 7, 1796....Maretta, daughter of Medad and Elizabeth Gold.  
 March 21, 1796....Lockwood Belding, son of Lewis Burr and Charlotte Sturges.  
 March 27, 1796....Samuel, son of Samuel and Priscilla Sherwood.  
 April 3, 1796....George, son of Walter and Ruamah Sharp.  
 May 15, 1796....George, son of Abijah and Mary Morehouse.  
 May 22, 1796....Elbe, son of John and Eunice Godfrey.  
 June 26, 1796....Solomon, son of Dimon and Sarah Sturges.  
 June 26, 1796....Spicer, son of Joshua and Abigail Davis.  
 July 24, 1796....Abigail Jane, daughter of Lathrop and Sarah Lewis.  
 July 17, 1796....Lewis, son of Stephen and Mary Fowler.  
 July 24, 1796....Lucretia, daughter of Jesse and Bethiah Dimon.  
 Aug. 7, 1796....Narcissa, daughter of Walter and Elizabeth Burr Perry.  
 Aug. 28, 1796....Silliman Burr, son of William and Ann Morehouse.  
 Sept. 4, 1796....Deborah Lewis, daughter of Barnabas Lathrop and Mary Sturges.  
 Sept. 18, 1796....Moses, son of Eleazar and Mary Bulkley.  
 Sept. 25, 1796....Benjamin, son of Caleb and Anna Brewster.  
 Nov. 13, 1796....Marietta, daughter of Squire and Lydia Nichols.  
 Jan. 29, 1797....Mabel Perry, daughter of David and Sally Ogden.  
 Feb. 11, 1797....Julia Anna, daughter of Nehemiah and Abia Fowler (at my own house).  
 March 2, 1797....Silas Augustus, son of Silas and Free love Nichols.  
 March 5, 1797....Judson, son of David and Thankful Sturges.  
 March 19, 1797....Lewis, son of Levi and Sarah Mallery.  
 March 26, 1797....Lewis Burr, son of Lewis Burr and Charlotte Sturges.  
 April 30, 1797....Susan, daughter of Jesup and Esther Wakeman.  
 June 3, 1797....Morris, son of Benjamin and Martha Wilson.  
 June 25, 1797....Monson, son of Edward and Elizabeth Sturges.  
 June 25, 1797....Henry Sturges, son of Sturges and Nancy Thorp.  
 July 22, 1797....Charles Sylvester, son of William and Eunice Burr.  
 July 30, 1797....George, son of John and Lydia Wheeler.  
 Aug. 6, 1797....Mary Anne, daughter of William and Phebe Silliman.  
 Sept. 10, 1797....William, son of William and Mary Sturges.  
 Sept. 10, 1797....Austin, son of Medad and Elizabeth Gold.  
 Sept. 19, 1797....Mary, daughter of Abel and Deborah Turney.  
 Oct. 8, 1797....Daniel Gold, son of Ebenezer and Anna Silliman.  
 Oct. 29, 1797....John Morehouse, son of Nathan and Ruth Perry.  
 Dec. 17, 1797....Dennie, son of James and Sarah Sayre.  
 Jan. 14, 1798....George Hobart, son of Stephen and Lydia Burr.  
 Feb. 3, 1798....Julia Anna, daughter of Walter and Ruamah Thorp, at a lecture in the house of Thomas Hull.

- Feb. 3, 1798....Susan, daughter of Elijah and Lucretia Bibbins, at a lecture in the house of Thomas Hull.
- Feb. 8, 1798....Esther, daughter of Thomas and Abigail Hull.
- Feb. 8, 1798....Clo, a negro girl, offered by Ezekiel and Sarah Hull, at a lecture in the house of Thomas Hull.
- Feb. 8, 1798....Phillis, Amos and Nancy, negro children offered by Thomas and Abigail Hull, at a lecture in the house of Thomas Hull.
- Feb. 11, 1798....Elizabeth, daughter of Jesse and Bethia Dimon.
- March 4, 1798....Deborah, daughter of Abel and Elizabeth Beers.
- March 25, 1798....Lewis Burr, son of Lewis and Debby Goodsel.
- May 6, 1798....Julia, daughter of Miah and Elizabeth Perry.
- May 6, 1798....Lucretia, daughter of Barnabas Lathrop and Mary Sturges.
- May 13, 1798....Alanson, son of Samuel and Esther Staples.
- May 16, 1798....Harriet, daughter of Abraham, Jr., and Sarah Morehouse.
- Aug. 12, 1798....Abraham Cooper, son of Abraham Cooper and Eunice Woodhull.
- Aug. 26, 1798....Eunice Smedley, daughter of Ebenezer and Mary Squire.
- Sept. 23, 1798....Stephen, son of Stephen and Mary Fowler.
- Nov. 18, 1798....Andrew Lothrop, son of Lothrop and Sarah Lewis.
- Nov. 18, 1798....Austin, son of Walter and Elizabeth Burr Perry.
- Nov. 29, 1798....Susanna, daughter of David and Susanna Hull.
- Nov. 29, 1798....Thomas, son of Jesse and Anna Wheeler.
- Jan. 22, 1799....Sally, daughter of Thomas and Sarah Bartram.
- Feb. 27, 1799....David Ward, son of David and Thankful Sturges.
- March 3, 1799....Ebenezer, son of Squire and Lydia Nichols.
- April 28, 1799....Munson, son of Solomon and Amelia Sturges.
- May 5, 1799....Deborah Gold, daughter of Daniel, Jr., and Mary Osborn.
- May 5, 1799....Mary Cannon, daughter of Lewis Burr and Charlotte Sturges.
- May 12, 1799....Mary Burr, daughter of Job and Ruthy Bartram.
- May 26, 1799....Lydia Squire, daughter of John and Lydia Wheeler.
- May 26, 1799....Prince, son, and Sally, daughter, of Christopher and Dinah, offered by Mrs. Priscilla Burr.
- May 30, 1799....Elizabeth Eliot, daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Dewey.
- July 7, 1799....Anson, son of Elijah and Lucretia Bibbins.
- July 7, 1799....David, son of David and Sally Ogden.
- July 21, 1799....Sarah, daughter of Stephen and Lydia Beers.
- July 28, 1799....Solomon Curtis, son of John and Eunice Godfrey.
- Aug. 4, 1799....William Webb, son of Jesup and Esther Wakeman.
- Oct. 6, 1799....Eliza, daughter of Medad and Elizabeth Gold.
- Nov. 17, 1799....Andrew, son of Sturges and Nancy Thorp.
- Dec. 22, 1799....Sarah Wheeler, daughter of John and Hannah Morehouse.
- Dec. 29, 1799....William, son of Jason and Catherine Gold.
- Feb. 2, 1800....Mary Wakemah, daughter of Walter and Ruamah Thorp.
- Feb. 22, 1800....John, son of Hezekiah and Mary Burr.
- March 30, 1800....Amelia, daughter of Dimon and Sarah Sturges.
- March 30, 1800....Samuel, son of Abraham Cooper and Eunice Woodhull.
- April 7, 1800....Elizabeth, daughter of Aaron and Betsey Hubbel.
- April 13, 1800....Sturges, son of Lothrop and Sarah Lewis.
- April 20, 1800....Eunice Burr, daughter of Joshua and Abigail Davis.
- April 20, 1800....Elizabeth, daughter of Ebenezer and Anne Silliman.
- May 4, 1800....Robert, son of Jesse and Bethia Dimon.
- June 29, 1800....George, son of Eleazar and Mary Bulkley.
- June 29, 1800....Lurany, daughter of Benjamin and Martha Wilson.
- Sept. 14, 1800....David Burr, son of Edward and Elizabeth Sturges.
- Sept. 28, 1800....Elizabeth, daughter of William and Eunice Burr.
- Oct. 5, 1800....Brutus, son of Wright and Elizabeth Weeks.
- Oct. 5, 1800....Henry, son of Lewis and Deborah Goodsel.
- Oct. 12, 1800....Abel, son of Abel and Mary Sherwood.
- Nov. 2, 1800....Ebenezer, son of Abel and Elizabeth Beers.
- Dec. 21, 1800....Joseph, son of Thomas and Sarah Bartram.
- Jan. 18, 1801....Munson, son of John and Catherine Wheeler.
- Feb. 13, 1801....Angelina, daughter of Isaac and Mary Gold, at a lecture in the house of Gershom Bulkley at Sasco.



- Feb. 13, 1801....Sarah Couch, daughter of Isaac and Mary Gold, at a lecture in the house of Gershom Bulkley at Sascot.
- March 8, 1801....Sarah, daughter of Aaron and Sarah Turney.
- March 13, 1801....Sarah, Isaac and Samuel, children of Abraham and Ruamah Parrot, at a lecture in the house of Abraham Parrot.
- March 13, 1801....Esther, daughter of Abraham and Ruamah Parrot, at a lecture in the house of Abraham Parrot.
- March 22, 1801....Abraham Parrot, Jr., and Rhoda Wheeler.
- March 29, 1801....Mehitabel Burr.
- March 29, 1801....Ellen Burr.
- March 29, 1801....Sally Wakeman.
- March 29, 1801....Sally Turney.
- April 5, 1801....Benjamin, son of Andrew and Eunice Wakeman.
- April 12, 1801....Catherine, daughter of William and Phebe Silliman.
- May 17, 1801....Lothrop, son of Ebenezer and Mary Squire.
- May 21, 1801....Thaddeus Burr, son of Lewis Burr and Charlotte Sturges.
- June 21, 1801....Emily, daughter of Walter and Elizabeth Burr Perry.
- June 28, 1801....Hetty, daughter of Miah and Elizabeth Perry.
- June 28, 1801....Sturges, son of Abel and Betsey Ogden.
- July 5, 1801....John Sloss, son of Stephen and Lydia Beers.
- July 19, 1801....Susan, daughter of Aaron and Betsey Hubbel.
- Sept. 6, 1801....Albert, son of Lothrop and Sarah Lewis.
- Sept. 13, 1801....David, son of John and Eunice Godfrey.
- Sept. 20, 1801....William, son of Job and Ruthy Bartram.
- Oct. 18, 1801....Morris, son of Jesup and Esther Wakeman.
- Oct. 18, 1801....Esther Maria, daughter of Ralph and Polly Burns.
- Oct. 18, 1801....Pallina, daughter of Samuel and Hannah Beers.
- Nov. 8, 1801....John, son of Jason and Catherine Gold.
- Nov. 13, 1801....William, son of Mary, daughter of Nathan and — Wheeler of Greenfield.
- Nov. 13, 1801....A negro child, offered by Thomas Hull.
- Nov. 13, 1801....Abigail, daughter of Thomas and Abigail Hull, at a lecture in the house of Thomas Hull.
- Nov. 13, 1801....Venus, a negro boy, and Nance, a negro girl, offered by Ezekiel Hull, at a lecture in the house of Thomas Hull.
- Nov. 22, 1801....William Henry, son of Stephen and Mary Fowler.
- Dec. 6, 1801....Priscilla, daughter of Edward and Elizabeth Sturges, at a lecture in the house of Amos Wilson.
- Jan. 27, 1802....James Benjamin, son, and Laura, daughter, of Amos and — Wilson, at a lecture in the house of Amos Wilson.
- Jan. 27, 1802....Roderick, son of Medad and Elizabeth Gold, at a lecture in the house of Amos Wilson.
- Feb. 13, 1802....Richard, son of Abraham Cooper and Eunice Woodhull.
- March 7, 1802....Anna, daughter of William and Mary Sturges.
- April 14, 1802....Daniel, son of Caleb and Anna Brewster.
- May 2, 1802....Jonathan, son of Barnabas Lothrop and Mary Sturges.
- May 9, 1802....John, son of Jesse and Bethia Dimon.
- May 9, 1802....Ellen Burr, daughter of John and Hannah Morehouse.
- June 10, 1802....Emily, daughter of Andrew and Sarah Mallery.
- June 13, 1802....Amelia, daughter of Solomon and Amelia Sturges.
- Aug. 1, 1802....Benjamin, son of Ebenezer and Anne Silliman.
- Aug. 8, 1802....Alithea, daughter of Gold and Betsey Morehouse, offered by her grandmother, Mary Morehouse.
- Sept. 5, 1802....Andrew Eliot, son of Gershom and Elizabeth Burr.
- Sept. 19, 1802....William, son of William and Rhoda Wheeler.
- Sept. 19, 1802....Aaron, son of Justus and Sally Sherwood.
- Oct. 15, 1802....Lucretia, daughter of William and Eunice Burr.
- Nov. 7, 1802....Elizabeth, daughter of Abel and Elizabeth Beers.
- Nov. 7, 1802....Esther, daughter of Levi and — Perry.
- Jan. 7, 1803....Nancy, daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Dewey, at a lecture at Mill River.
- Jan. 16, 1803....Simon Belding, son of Lewis Burr and Charlotte Sturges.
- March 13, 1803....Nancy Dimon, daughter of David and Thankful Sturges.
- March 13, 1803....Peter Burr, son of Joseph and Sarah Sturges.
- March 13, 1803....Hannah Allen, daughter of Daniel Beers and Sally Ogden.
- April 24, 1803....Elizabeth, daughter of David and Sally Ogden.

May 18, 1803....	Nicholas Chauncy, Nathaniel, Caroline and Simon, children of Chauncy (deceased) and Caroline Mathilda Wheeler, at a lecture in the house of Capt. David Wheeler.	Sept. 2, 1804....	Julia Anne, daughter of David and Sarah Anna Burr.
May 20, 1803....	Walter Bradley, son of Walter and Elizabeth Burr Perry.	Sept. 2, 1804....	Maria Sturges, daughter of Abraham and Sarah Morehouse.
June 10, 1803....	Edward, son of Walter and Ruamah Thorp.	Sept. 2, 1804....	George Wakeman, son of Job and Ruthy Bartram.
June 21, 1803....	John, son of Job and Ruthy Bartram.	Sept. 2, 1804....	Mary Wheeler, daughter of Barnabas and Deborah Bartram.
July 17, 1803....	Catherine, daughter of John and Catherine Wheeler.	Sept. 6, 1804....	Ezra, son of Ezra and — Burr.
July 17, 1803....	Morris, son of Hezekiah and Nancy Osborn.	Sept. 23, 1804....	John Wasson, son of Lewis Burr and Charlotte Sturges.
July 31, 1803....	George, son of George and Abigail Miller.	Oct. 7, 1804....	Marietta, daughter of Joseph and Sarah Sturges.
Aug. 3, 1803....	Jerusha Parrot.	Nov. 18, 1804....	Aretie, daughter of Abel and Elizabeth Beers.
Aug. 7, 1803....	Alanson, son of Stephen, Jr., and Rachel Osborn.	Nov. 20, 1804....	Sally, daughter of Seth and Eunice Osborn.
Aug. 13, 1803....	Ebenezer, son of Ebenezer and Abigail Bartram.	Nov. 25, 1804....	George Vinson, son of John and Jerusha Osborn.
Aug. 21, 1803....	Almira, daughter of Samuel, Jr., and Hannah Beers.	Dec. 3, 1804....	Eliza, daughter of David and Betsey Wilson.
Sept. 4, 1803....	Marietta, daughter of Abel and Mary Sherwood.	Feb. 15, 1805....	Justus, son of Justus (deceased) and Sally Sherwood.
Sept. 4, 1803....	Abigail Jane, daughter of Abel and Betsey Ogden.	March 3, 1805....	Osborn, son of William and Mary Sturges.
Sept. 25, 1803....	Martha, daughter of Lewis and Debby Goodsell.	April 7, 1805....	William Henry, son of Billy and Anna Bibbins.
Sept. 25, 1803....	Samuel Smedley, son of Lothrop and Sarah Lewis.	May 5, 1805....	Delia, daughter of Miah and Elizabeth Perry.
Oct. 30, 1803....	Thomas Burr, son of Thomas and Sarah Bartram.	May 15, 1805....	David, son of Peter and Clarina Sturges.
Nov. 16, 1803....	Rebecca, daughter of Isaac and Mary Gold, at a lecture at Mill River.	June 9, 1805....	Harriet Dimon, daughter of James and Abigail Allen.
Jan. 1, 1804....	Zalmon Bradley, son of Jesup and Esther Wakeman.	June 9, 1805....	Everet Wheeler, son of Eleazer and Patience Eggleston.
Jan. 13, 1804....	Sally Eliza, daughter of Walter and Sally (deceased) Cure.	June 30, 1805....	Abigail Dimon, daughter of Barnabas Lathrop and Mary Sturges.
Jan. 20, 1804....	Nathaniel, son of Joseph and Elizabeth Dewey, at a lecture at Mill River.	June 30, 1805....	Delia Marcia, daughter of Walter and Ruamah Thorp.
April 1, 1804....	Mary Anne, daughter of Ebenezer and Mary Sherwood Dimon.	July 14, 1805....	Albert, son of John Gold and Elizabeth Allen.
April 1, 1804....	Jonathan Sturges, son of Ger-shom and Elizabeth Burr.	Nov. 24, 1805....	William, son of Walter and Elizabeth Burr Perry.
May 13, 1804....	Mary, daughter of Stephen and Lydia Beers.	Dec. 15, 1805....	Edward and Maria, children of John Gold and Elizabeth Allen.
June 3, 1804....	Isaac Marquand, son of Jesse and Bethia Dimon.	Dec. 15, 1805....	John Bradley, son of David and Thankful Sturges.
June 10, 1804....	Eliza, daughter of William and Rhoda Wheeler.	Dec. 15, 1805....	Catherine, daughter of Daniel Beers and Sally Osborn.
June 17, 1804....	Mary, daughter of Jeremiah and — Osborn.	Dec. 15, 1805....	George, son of Abel and Betsey Ogden.
July 22, 1804....	Aaron, son of Sturges and Nancy Thorp.	Jan. 26, 1806....	Charlotte Parrot.
Sept. 2, 1804....	Laura Anne Smith.	Feb. 9, 1806....	Catherine, daughter of Jason and Catherine Gould.
		June 15, 1806....	Rachel, daughter of Jesse and — Dimon.
		Sept. 23, 1806....	Sarah Ann, daughter of Stephen and Mary Fowler.

## MARRIAGES BY THE REV. JOSEPH WEBB.

- Nov. 19, ....Joseph Squire and Sarah Jennings.  
 March 13, 1726....Mr. Peter Hepburn and Mrs. Sarah Clark.  
 July 26, 1727....Mr. Lathrop Lewis and Mrs. Sarah Wakeman.  
 May 21, 1728....Daniel Bulkley and Hannah Johnson.  
 Oct. 2, 1728....Samuel Jennings, Jr., and Johanna Risdin.  
 Nov. 18, 1728....Gershom Scott of Waterbury and Mary Fanton, at Fairfield.  
 Dec. 24, 1729....Andrew Sinclair and the widow Abigail Cosier.  
 May 28, 1730....Mr. Peter Penfield and Mrs. Mary Allen.

## MARRIAGES BY REV. NOAH HOBART.

- Jan. 31, 1733-4....Nathan Stephen of Danbury and Phebe Lyon of Fairfield.  
 Nov. 24, 1735....Job Gorham of Barnstable and Bethia Freeman of Fairfield.  
 Sept. 14, 1737....The Rev. Mr. Nathaniel Hunn and Miss Ruth Read.  
 Oct. 11, 1739....David Allen and Sarah Gold.  
 Jan. 17, 1739-40....Samuel Sturgis and Ann Burr.  
 July 7, 1741....John Thompson of Stratford —.  
 Aug. 20, 1741....Stephen Jennings and Hannah Sturgis.  
 Nov. 5, 1741....Daniel Sturgis and Mary Beers.  
 Jan. 7, 1741-2....Benjamin Fayerweather and Elizabeth Beach.  
 Oct. 11, 1742....Thomas Chambers of Newtown and Mary Bulmore of Fairfield.  
 Oct. 18, 1742....Jacob Levet and Catee Gold.  
 Dec. 8, 1742....Micah Perry and Grace Sturgis.  
 Dec. 28, 1742....John Turney and Esther Gold.  
 March 24, 1742-3...Thomas Gibbs of Milford and Hannah Allen of Fairfield.  
 May 26, 1743....Edward Treadwell and Sarah Trowbridge.  
 Nov. 10, 1743....Samuel Beers and Thankful Osborne.  
 March 1, 1743-4...Jabez Barlow and Elizabeth Hunt.  
 March 1, 1743-4...Andrew Beardsley and Sarah Squire.  
 July 19, 1744....Nathan Thompson and Abigail Gold.  
 Oct. 18, 1744....James Adair and Ann McCarty.  
 Jan. 1, 1744-5....Daniel Perry and Sarah Wilson.  
 Dec. 1, 1745....David Rowland and Deborah Sloss.  
 Jan. 30, 1745-6....John Jennings, Jr., and Sarah Jennings.  
 Feb. 4, 1745-6....Samuel Galpine of Woodbury and Ann Sherwood of Fairfield.

- Sept. 16, 1746....The Rev. Mr. Thomas Arthur of New Brunswick and Miss Sarah Burr of Fairfield.  
 Oct. 14, 1746....Nathaniel Pierson and Hannah Beers.  
 March 26, 1747....Joseph Morehouse and Eliza Silliman.  
 Oct. 19, 1747....Joseph Frost, Jr., and Esther Dimon.  
 Nov. 5, 1747....Jabez Bulkley and Elizabeth Osborn.  
 Dec. 17, 1747....Stephen Turney and Sarah Squire.  
 Jan. 4, 1747-8....James Smedly and Mary Dimon.  
 Jan. 13, 1747-8....Thomas Hawley of Ridgefield and Elizabeth Gold of Fairfield.  
 Jan. 14, 1747-8....Nathaniel Seely and Rebecca Hubbel.  
 Jan. 21, 1747-8....John Hyde, Jr., and Abigail Ogden.  
 March 24, 1747-8...John Clugstone and Elizabeth Rowlandson.  
 Aug. 11, 1748....Jabez Patchin of Wilton and Hannah Squier of Fairfield.  
 Sept. 14, 1748....Ebenezer Wakeman and Ann Hill.  
 Jan. 16, 1748-9....Anthony Annable and Sarah Middlebrook.  
 Aug. 7, 1749....Gamaliel French of Stratfield and Sarah Redfield of Fairfield.  
 Aug. 10, 1749....Lieut. Gideon Allen and Mrs. Jane Dimon.  
 Sept. 20, 1749....Ebenezer Middlebrook and Sarah Bulkley.  
 Oct. 31, 1749....Zephaniah Clark and Olive Osborn.  
 Feb. 14, 1749-50....David Rowland, Esq., and Miss Elizabeth Hill.  
 April 5, 1750....David Ogden, Jr., and Jane Sturgis.  
 Dec. 31, 1750....Ebenezer Knap and Elizabeth McRaa.  
 Jan. 17, 1750-1....Mr. John Allen and Mrs. Abigail Jesup.  
 March 19, 1750-1...Daniel Kellog of Norwalk and Hannah Fairchild of Fairfield.  
 Sept. 4, 1751....Thomas Minor of Woodbury and Tabitha Treadwell of Fairfield.  
 Nov. 21, 1751....Hezekiah Sturgis and Abigail Dimon.  
 Dec. 11, 1751....Mr. David Burr and Miss Eunice Osborn.  
 Jan. 1, 1752....Ichabod Wheeler and Deborah Burr.  
 Jan. 17, 1752....John Parrit and Sarah Hubbel.  
 May 10, 1752....Mr. Ebenezer Wakeman and Miss Sarah Handford.  
 May 20, 1752....Mr. Lyman Hall and Miss Abigail Burr.  
 Oct. 10, 1752....Sturgis Lewis and Ann Burr.

- Nov. 8, 1752....Mr. Thaddeus Betts of Ridge field and Miss Mary Gold of Fairfield.
- Dec. 21, 1752....Daniel Jennings, Jr., and Eunice Burr.
- Feb. 5, 1753....David Hubbel and Martha Gold.
- Feb. 22, 1753....Peter Hull and Ann Dimon.
- March 22, 1753....Jesse Hunt and Sarah Staples.
- April 19, 1753....Abraham Betts of Norwalk and Mary Bedient of Fairfield.
- May 31, 1753....Samuel Burr, Jr., and Eunice Sturgis.
- July 3, 1753....Nathan Hill and Eunice Wakeman.
- Oct. 16, 1753....Benjamin Osborne and Mary Dimon.
- Dec. 5, 1753....Elnathan Williams and Hannah Thorp.
- Jan. 10, 1754....Jonathan Lewis and Sarah Osborn.
- Jan. 30, 1754....Ebenezer Meeker, Jr., and Eliza Jennings.
- Feb. 17, 1754....David Wakeman and Mary Jennings.
- March 6, 1754....Benjamin Wynkoop, Jr., and Grissel Frost.
- March 7, 1754....Jabez Thorp and Ann Sturgis.
- March 14, 1754....Capt. Samuel Burr and Mrs. Ruth Bulkley.
- April 18, 1754....Peter Thorp and Abigail Ward.
- May 1, 1754....Mr. Gideon Welles and Miss Catharine Wynkoop.
- June 6, 1754....Mr. Samuel Sherwood and Miss Rachel Hyde.
- Nov. 7, 1754....Jacob Bartram and Rebecca Squire.
- Nov. 13, 1754....Moses Dimon, Jr., and Grace Dimon.
- Dec. 19, 1754....Abel Gold and Ellen Burr.
- Jan. 22, 1755....Amos Williams and Eleanor Davis.
- April 3, 1755....James Hall and Abigail Beers.
- Sept. 4, 1755....Mr. Asa Spalding and Miss Grace Rowland.
- Jan. 8, 1756....John Bulkley and Martha Hubbel.
- Jan. 21, 1756....Samuel Silliman and Elizabeth Burr.
- Jan. 22, 1756....Daniel Burr and Ann Silliman.
- Feb. 5, 1756....Matthew Jennings and Rebecca Morehouse.
- Feb. 11, 1756....Nathan Adams and Mary Hubbel.
- March 31, 1756....Hezekiah Platt and Sarah Lord.
- April 8, 1756....James Bulkley and Eliza Whitehead.
- April 15, 1756....Mr. Nathan Bulkley and Miss Sarah Perry.
- July 22, 1756....Nathan Beers and Abigail Squire.
- Aug. 12, 1756....Edmund Hunt and Abigail —.
- Nov. 2, 1756....Gershom Hubbel and Sarah Wakeman.
- Dec. 14, 1756....Mr. Robert Silliman and Mrs. Mary Morehouse.
- Jan. 20, 1757....Thomas Hill, Jr., and Ellen Sturgis.
- Jan. 19, 1757....Mr. Daniel Osborn and Miss Elizabeth Burr.
- Feb. 21, 1757....John McDonald and Elizabeth Fraser.
- March 12, 1758....Mr. Cornelius Wynkoop, Jr., of New York and Miss Abigail Osborn of Fairfield.
- March 27, 1758....Abel Wheeler and Rebecca Whitcar.
- Aug. 10, 1758....Abel Jennings and Sarah Hollingsworth.
- Aug. 29, 1758....Moses Bulkley and Abigail Sturges.
- Feb. 26, 1759....Ebenezer Burr and Amelia Silliman.
- March 22, 1759....Mr. Thaddeus Burr and Miss Eunice Dennie.
- Oct. 11, 1759....Moses Jennings and Abigail Burr.
- Nov. 8, 1759....Peter Hull and Jerusha Sturges.
- Dec. 5, 1759....Matthew Curtiss of Newtown and Abigail Thompson of Fairfield.
- Oct. 26, 1760....Jonathan Sturgis and Deborah Lewis.
- April 26, 1761....Mordecai Bedient and Abigail Raymon.
- May 28, 1761....Daniel Wakeman and Esther Hill.
- June 9, 1761....David — and Rebecca Middlebrook.
- June 11, 1761....Jonathan Ogden and Sarah Ogden.
- Dec. 9, 1761....Jonathan Darrow and Elizabeth Bulkley.
- Dec. 31, 1761....Mr. Elijah Abel and Miss Grissel Burr.
- March 3, 1762....Noah Lane of Killingsworth and Grace Buddington of Fairfield.
- March 18, 1762....Justin Hobart and Hannah Penfield.
- May 14, 1762....— and Ruamah Lynde.
- June 17, 1762....George Wakeman and Sarah Hill.
- Aug. 12, 1762....Ephraim Burr, Jr., and Eunice Wilson.
- Nov. 3, 1762....Peter Jennings and Eunice Smith.
- Nov. 11, 1762....Joseph Sturgis and Sarah Dimon.
- Nov. 15, 1762....David Dimon and Ann Allen.
- Nov. 25, 1762....Hezekiah Nichols and Ann Penfield.
- Dec. 8, 1762....Jeremiah Jennings and Elizabeth Smith.
- Jan. 13, 1763....John Smedley and Eunice Wynkoop.



- Jan. 27, 1763....Andrew Morehouse and Ann Knap.
- Jan. 31, 1763....Joseph Sprague and Elizabeth Squire.
- April 14, 1763....Capt. Josiah Burnham of Kensington and Mrs. Mary Smith.
- April 21, 1763....Nehemiah Burr and Sarah Osborne.
- April 28, 1763....Thomas Fitch, Jr., Esq., of Norwalk and Miss Sarah Hill.
- May 5, 1763....Ebenezer Silliman, Jr., and Ruth Silliman.
- Aug. 1, 1763....Peter Penfield, Jr., and Hannah Lewis.
- Dec. 1, 1763....Mr. Andrew Hill and Miss Abigail Lewis.
- Dec. 21, 1763....David Silliman and Lydia Penfield.
- May 9, 1764....Stephen Adams and Hester Hill.
- May 22, 1764....Jesse Raymond of Middlesex and Jemima Gold of Fairfield.
- June 1, 1764....Isaac Tucker and Mary Wakeman.
- June 3, 1764....Eleazer Osborne, Jr., and Sarah Burr.
- Nov. 29, 1764....Woodcot Hawly and Ellen Osborne.
- Dec. 13, 1764....Mr. Seth Warner and Mrs. Sarah Wakeman.
- Jan. 3, 1765....William Dimon and Esther Sturgis.
- Feb. 14, 1765....Abraham Andrews and Catherine Wakeman.
- June 13, 1765....Gould Hait of Norwalk and Elizabeth Dimon of Fairfield.
- Dec. 12, 1765....Gershom Burr and Priscilla Lothrop.
- Jan. 9, 1766....Ebenezer Burr and Hannah Morehouse.
- April 17, 1766....Capt. Jonathan Camp of Norwalk and Miss Abigail Shove of Fairfield.
- Aug. 14, 1766....Paul Nichols and Sarah Middlebrook.
- May 24, 1767....Samuel Andrews and Hannah Wakeman.
- June 11, 1767....John Whitear and Abigail Rowland.
- Sept. 21, 1767....Hezekiah Fitch, Esq., and Miss Jerusha Burr.
- Jan. 21, 1768....Isaac Turney and Elizabeth Hubbel.
- May 10, 1768....Mr. Nathaniel Lothrop of Plymouth and Miss Ellen Hobart of Fairfield.
- May 10, 1768....Gideon Beebee and Betty Sherwood.
- Aug. 17, 1768....Andrew Jennings and Abigail Hunt.
- Oct. 23, 1768....Jonathan Maltby and Elizabeth Allen.
- Nov. 3, 1768....David Jennings and Mehitabel Squire.
- April 20, 1769....Daniel Wilson and Sarah Squire.
- Jan. 19, 1770....George Morehouse and Sarah Davis.
- April 15, 1770....William Beadle and Lydia Lothrop.
- April 23, 1770....Oliver Burr and Elizabeth Smith.
- May 15, 1770....Jonathan Cole and Lois Bulkley.
- June 14, 1770....Jabez Thorp and Martha Osborne.
- Nov. 1, 1770....Abijah Morehouse and Mary Allen.
- Nov. 1, 1770....John Penfield and Eunice Ogden.
- Nov. 15, 1770....Isaac Jennings and Abigail Gold.
- Dec. 6, 1770....Daniel Dimon and Lois Bradley.
- Dec. 20, 1770....James Goodsel and Esther Adair.
- Jan. 9, 1771....Samuel Sturges and Abigail Hill.
- Jan. 23, 1771....David Edwards of North Stratford and Lydia Osborn of Fairfield.
- Jan. 31, 1771....Jonathan Darrow, Jr., and Elizabeth Bulkley.
- April 9, 1771....Samuel Smedley and Esther Rowland.
- July 11, 1771....David Osborn and Mary Beers.
- Dec. 19, 1771....Jehiel Thorp and Ellen Perry.
- Dec. 25, 1771....Josiah Bulkley and Abigail Beers.
- March 5, 1772....John Pierson and Jane Sturgis.
- Aug. 3, 1772....Levi Mallery and Sarah Annable.
- Dec. 24, 1772....Nathan Lewis and Esther Bulkley.
- Dec. 29, 1772....Gershom Osborn and Grissel Sherwood.
- Jan. 20, 1773....Elihu Alvard and Mary Beers.
- April 14, 1773....Andrew Wakeman and Hannah Allen.
- June 6, 1773....Ebenezer Bradley and Mary Burr.
- June 24, 1773....Mr. Tappan Reeve of Litchfield and Miss Sarah Burr of Fairfield.
- June 29, 1774....Stratton Osborn and Rhoda Patchin. This and the following marriages by the Rev. Andrew Eliot: ✓
- Sept. 22, 1774....William Silliman and Anne Allen.
- Dec. 25, 1774....John Redfield and Lucretia Marquand.
- Jan. 26, 1775....Nicholas Darrow and Elizabeth Beers.
- Feb. 25, 1775....Toney, negro servant to Jeremiah Sherwood of Greens Farms and Nanny, negro servant to Andrew Eliot.
- March, 1775....Toney, negro servant to Abel Gould and Dorcas, negro servant to Nathan Bulkley.

- April 16, 1775....Capt. Jonathan Dimon of Greenfield and Miss Elizabeth Wakeman of Fairfield.
- May 17, 1775....Stephen Jackson of Reading and Elizabeth Hull of Fairfield.
- May 25, 1775....Deodate Silliman of Fairfield and Catherine Silliman of North Fairfield.
- July 11, 1775....Isaac Jarvis and Abigail Squire.
- July 12, 1775....Jack, negro servant to David Barlow of Fairfield and Mary, negro servant to Deacon Hill of Greenfield.
- Aug. 28, 1775....The Honorable John Hancock, Esq., and Miss Dorothy Quincy, both of Boston.
- Oct. 26, 1775....Robert Harris of Norfield and Mary Bulkley of Fairfield.
- Dec. 28, 1775....Jabez Hubbel and Abigail Gray.
- March 14, 1776....Joseph Bulkley and Elizabeth Lewis.
- June 20, 1776....Samuel Wheeler of Stratford and Sarah Morehouse of Fairfield.
- June 20, 1776....Ebenezer Squire and Mary Wheeler.
- July 4, 1776....Ebenezer Sturges and Sarah Bulkley.
- July 11, 1776....Peter Hendrick and Sarah Allen.
- July 18, 1776....Moses Sturges and Elizabeth Bradley, both of Greenfield, were married in that society. David Downs and ———, both of Greenfield, were married at Fairfield.
- Nov. 10, 1776....Nathan Thorp and Patience Wheeler.
- Nov. 17, 1776....Peter Burr, Jr., and Esther Jennings.
- Dec. 12, 1776....Jonathan Bulkley, Jr., and Lydia Bulkley. Amos and Nance, negro servants to Mr. Ebenezer Hill of Greenfield, were married at Fairfield.
- Nov. 27, 1777....Nathan Beers, Jr., and Mehitable Perry.
- Dec. 25, 1777....Stephen Stratton of Greenfield and Sarah Darrow of Fairfield.
- Jan. 8, 1778....Lyman Jennings and Deborah Mitchel.
- Jan. 18, 1778....Abel Gold and Amelia Burr.
- Feb. 8, 1778....Jonathan Darrow and Molly Thorp.
- March 1, 1778....Nehemiah Fowler and Abiah Wheeler.
- July 27, 1778....Joseph Bulkley and Grizzel Thorp.
- Nov. 22, 1778....Jesse Nichols and Mabel Bulkley of Greenfield were married at Fairfield.
- Nov. 26, 1778....Isaac Lewis of Stratford and Mary Morehouse of Fairfield.
- Dec. 10, 1778....Jedediah Hull of Greenfield and Mary Osborn of Fairfield.
- Dec. 17, 1778....Stephen Osborn and Grizzel Osborn.
- Jan. 21, 1779....Nathaniel Perry and Eunice Sturges.
- Jan. 24, 1779....John Williams, Jr., and Anne Mitchel.
- Jan. 28, 1779....Josiah Beardslee of Greenfield and Abigail Bulkley of Fairfield.
- Feb. 18, 1779....Robin, negro servant to Samuel Squire, Esq., and Dorcas, negro servant to Elijah Abel, Esq.
- March 30, 1779....Samuel Stratton of Greenfield and Grace Darrow of Fairfield.
- April 18, 1779....John Wasson and Elizabeth Bartram.
- April 28, 1779....Stephen Keeler of Norwalk and Margaret Pyncheon of Fairfield.
- June 10, 1779....Wright White and Esther Hughes.
- June 24, 1779....Jabez Hubbel and Rachel Osborn.
- Jan., 1780....Hosea Hurlbut and Miss Rachel Hubbel of Greenfield were married at Fairfield.
- Feb. 13, 1780....Dimon Sturges and Sarah Perry.
- Feb. 17, 1780....Abraham Morehouse and Ruth Wilson.
- Feb. 21, 1780....Philip Hubbard and Ambrillis Morehouse.
- Feb. 24, 1780....William Gates of Long Island and Margaret McRaa.
- April 20, 1780....Ebenezer Knapp and Mary Wilson.
- June 5, 1780....Tego, negro servant to Mr. Ozias Burr of Stratfield, and Sue, negro servant to Gold Selleck Silliman, Esq.
- June 15, 1780....Isaac Sherwood of Stratfield and Drusilla Sherwood of Fairfield.
- July 13, 1780....Benjamin Knap and Elizabeth Wilson.
- Sept. 20, 1780....Callico, negro servant to Mr. Daniel Wilson, and Dinah, negro servant to Mr. Matthew Jennings.
- Nov. 5, 1780....Reuben Sherwood and Abigail Perry.
- Nov. 30, 1780....Capt. Eliphalet Thorp and Sarah Ogden.
- Dec. 7, 1780....Major William Silliman and Miss Phoebe Jennings.
- Dec. 28, 1780....Samuel Squire, Esq., and Miss Abigail Squire.
- Feb. 15, 1781....Nathaniel Wilson, Jr., and Ruth Silliman.
- April 15, 1781....William Sisco and Hannah Taylor.

- April 17, 1781....Priamus and Luce, negro servants to Thaddeus Burr, Esq.
- June 21, 1781....Samuel Burr and Abigail Jennings.
- Oct. 14, 1781....Priamus, negro servant to Deacon Joseph Hill of Greenfield, and Nancy, negro servant to Mr. Thomas Edwards of Chestnut Hill.
- Oct. 18, 1781....John Hayes and Sarah Adams.
- Oct. 25, 1781....Stephen Adams, Jr., and Ellen Burr.
- Nov. 7, 1781....George Squire and Irene Hayes.
- Oct. 2, 1781....Gold Curtis of Newtown and Elizabeth Gold of Fairfield.
- Dec. 6, 1781....William Morehouse and Anne Burr.
- Jan. 24, 1782....Aaron Turney and Sarah Staples.
- Feb. 24, 1782....Jacob June of Courtlandt's Manor, in the State of New York, and Elizabeth Penfield of Fairfield.
- Feb. 24, 1782....Nathaniel Penfield and Rachel Marquand.
- March 6, 1782....William Burr and Eunice Thorp.
- March 14, 1782....Aaron Fox and Elizabeth Price.
- March 18, 1782....Talcot Gold and Anna Barlow.
- March 28, 1782....Solomon Sturges of Fairfield and Amelia Sherwood of Greenfield were married at Greenfield.
- March 31, 1782....Ebenezer Silliman of North Fairfield and Sarah Penfield of Fairfield.
- April 11, 1782....David Lacy of Stratfield and Katherine Silliman of Fairfield were married at Stratfield.
- April 17, 1782....Abraham Cooper Woodhull of Brookhaven, on Long Island, and Eunice Sturges of Fairfield.
- April 28, 1782....John Perry and Hannah Thorp.
- May 5, 1782....Joseph Wyatt of Newport, Rhode Island, and Huldah Mason of Fairfield.
- May 26, 1782....Benjamin Sherwood, Jr., of Greenfield and Anna Hull of Fairfield.
- June 20, 1782....Ezekiel Oysterbanks of Greenfield and Esther Beers of Fairfield.
- July 21, 1782....George Allen and Huldah Knap.
- Sept. 1782....Sylvanus Middlebrook of Greenfield and Elizabeth Wilson of Fairfield.
- Nov. 4, 1782....Jabez Perry and Susanna Jennings.
- Dec. 17, 1782....James Knap and Mary Brown.
- Dec. 17, 1782....Peter Hull and Mary Redfield were married at Greenfield.
- Jan. 1, 1783....Joshua Davis of Long Island and Abigail Redfield of Fairfield.
- Jan. 8, 1783....David Ogden of Greenfield and Sally Perry of Fairfield.
- April 17, 1783....William Pike of Roxbury, Mass., and Molly Darrow of Fairfield.
- May 1, 1783....Stephen Rannels of Lee, New Hampshire, and Anna Nichols of Fairfield.
- Sept. 11, 1783....Benjamin Sturges and Thankful Darrow.
- Nov. 13, 1783....Mr. David Judson and Miss Esther Bulkley.
- Dec. 11, 1783....Joseph Noyes, Esq., and Miss Amelia Burr.
- Jan. 18, 1784....Gideon Hawley of North Stratford and Hannah Penfield of Fairfield.
- Jan. 18, 1784....Aaron Rawlings of New Market, New Hampshire, and Mary Jennings of Fairfield.
- April 8, 1784....Benjamin Dickenson of Long Island and Esther Ogden of Fairfield.
- April 18, 1784....Caleb Brewster of Brook Haven, on Long Island, and Anna Lewis of Fairfield.
- June 20, 1784....Thomas Hill and Catherine Jennings.
- Oct. 9, 1784....Gideon Hawley and Levina Darrow, both of Stratfield, were married at Fairfield.
- Oct. 28, 1784....Aaron Whaley of Greenfield and Hannah Silliman of Fairfield.
- Nov. 3, 1784....Stephen Stirling and Sarah Sherman, both of Stratfield, were married at Stratfield.
- Dec. 2, 1784....Silliman Wilson and Rhoda Silliman.
- Dec. 5, 1784....Hezekiah Burr, Jr., and Mary Annable.
- Dec. 16, 1784....The Rev. Mr. William Lockwood of Milford and Miss Sarah Sturges of Fairfield.
- Dec. 26, 1784....Abel Turney and Deborah Bulkley.
- Jan. 4, 1785....Daniel Osborn, Jr., and Deborah Gold.
- Jan. 12, 1785....John Redfield and Esther Thorp.
- March 3, 1785....Capt. Samuel Keeler and Mrs. Anna Thatcher, both of Norwalk, were married at Norwalk.
- Nov. 15, 1785....Thomas Staples, Jr., and Martha Treadwell.
- Nov. 24, 1785....Wright Weeks of Huntington, on Long Island, and Mary Perry of Fairfield.
- Nov. 24, 1785....Zalmon Sherwood of Greenfield and Sarah Ogden of Fairfield.
- Dec. 22, 1785....Eleazar Bulkley and Mary Ogden.
- Feb. 2, 1786....Joseph Beers and Mary Budington.

Feb. 4, 1786....	Hezekiah Gold and Ellen Hobart.			Parish of St. Helena, in South Carolina, and Abigail Burr of Fairfield.
March 8, 1786....	Mr. John Noyes of Fairfield and Miss Eunice Sherwood of Norfield were married at Norfield.	Sept. 9, 1789....	Barnabas Hodge of Plymouth, Mass., and Eunice Dennie Burr of Fairfield.	
March 30, 1786....	Sturges Ogden of Greenfield and Zoe Thorp of Fairfield.	Sept. 10, 1789....	Gershom Burr of Fairfield and Susanna Young of Stratfield were married at Stratfield.	
April 13, 1786....	Joel Burr of Reading and Elizabeth Gold of Fairfield.	Nov. 24, 1789....	Abijah Knap and Esther Burr.	
July 4, 1786....	Paul Sheffield of Stonington and Mabel Thorp of Fairfield.	Nov. 26, 1789....	David Russel of Bennington, Vermont, and Martha Pynchon of Fairfield.	
Sept. 14, 1786....	William Robinson of Fairfield and Abigail Smith of New London.	Dec. 8, 1789....	Ebenezer Plat of Reading and Abigail Truby of Fairfield.	
Dec. 24, 1786....	James Penfield, Jr., and Mary Tucker.	Dec. 20, 1789....	Silliman Gray of Greenfield and Anna Hubbel of Fairfield.	
Feb. 15, 1787....	Nathan Adams Hayes and Phebe Sturges.	Dec. 22, 1789....	William Hayes of Fairfield and Jane Redfield of Greenfield.	
April 7, 1787....	Daniel Osborn, Jr., and Mary Bartram.	Jan. 21, 1790....	York, a negro servant to Capt. Samuel Smedley, and Kate, negro servant to Nathan Bulkley, Esq.	
May 10, 1787....	Jesse Lyon of Greenfield and Sarah Godfrey of Fairfield.	Feb. 7, 1790....	Isaac Gold and Ellen Jennings.	
Oct. 20, 1787....	Gamaliel Bradford Whiting and Mary Dimon.	Feb. 20, 1790....	Nehemiah Hayes and Eunice Wilson.	
Oct. 31, 1787....	Miah Perry and Elizabeth Dimon.	March 18, 1790....	Jesse Bradley of Greenfield and Mary Morehouse of Fairfield.	
Nov. 11, 1787....	William Sturges and Mary Osborn.	Dec. 16, 1790....	James Bulkley, Jr., of Fairfield and Sarah Smith, 2nd, of Norwalk.	
Jan. 24, 1788....	Edward Sturges of Fairfield and Elizabeth Ogden of Greenfield were married at Fairfield.	Jan. 9, 1791....	Silliman Meeker of Green's Farms and Sarah Thorp of Fairfield.	
April 20, 1788....	James Van der Speagle Wynkoop of Fairfield and Sarah Price of Greenfield were married at Fairfield.	Feb. 3, 1791....	Abraham Morehouse, Jr., and Sarah Bulkley.	
April 27, 1788....	Peter Whitney and Grace Bulkley.	Feb. 11, 1791....	Christopher, negro servant to Capt. Jonathan Maltby and Dinah, negro servant to Mr. Gershom Burr.	
May 4, 1788....	Robert Jennings and Abigail Barlow.	Feb. 13, 1791....	Peter Jennings and Hannah Tucker.	
Nov. 26, 1788....	Gold Silliman and Esther Spalding.	Feb. 20, 1791....	Ezekiel Lovejoy of Stratford and Hannah Hawley of Fairfield.	
Dec. 18, 1788....	Allen Nichols and Abigail Sturges.	March 9, 1791....	Nathan Oysterbanks and Livia Drusilla Soards.	
Feb. 19, 1789....	John Walker Odell and Clary Gregory, both of Stratfield, were married at Stratfield.	April 3, 1791....	William Jennings and Charlotte Wilson.	
March 15, 1789....	Elijah Morehouse and Hannah Bulkley.	May 22, 1791....	Squire Parrot and Rhoda Knap.	
April 5, 1789....	Abraham Gold and Anna Osborn.	June 16, 1791....	Andrew Wakeman and Eunice Smedley.	
May 7, 1789....	William Squire and Esther Gold.	June 16, 1791....	Samuel Staples and Esther Parsons.	
June 21, 1789....	Barlow Sturges and Eunice Osborn.	Sept. 29, 1791....	Barnabas Lothrop Sturges and Mary Sturges.	
July 20, 1789....	Samuel Squire, Esq., and Miss Ellen Gold.	Nov. 23, 1791....	John Wheeler of Weston and Abia Turney of Fairfield.	
Aug. 2, 1789....	Jesse Wilson and Sarah Jennings.	Dec. 4, 1791....	Seth Sturges, Jr., and Grizzel Gold.	
Aug. 16, 1789....	David Barlow and Hannah Patchin.	Feb. 2, 1792....	John Wheeler and Lydia Squire.	
Sept. 9, 1789....	William Henry Capers of the	Jan. 9, 1792....	Ebenezer Silliman and Anna Gold.	



- Jan. 22, 1792....Walter Staples of Fairfield and Mary Lord of Weston.
- March 5, 1792....William Thorp and Mary Tucker.
- March 8, 1792....Daniel Young, Jr., of Stratfield and Eunice Hubbel of Fairfield.
- March 27, 1792....Stephen Burroughs of Stratfield and Mary Jennings of Boston, Mass., were married at Fairfield.
- Aug. 19, 1792....James Knap, Jr. and Abigail Penfield.
- Aug. 22, 1792....Daniel Wilson, Jr., and Anna Jennings.
- Sept. 20, 1792....Nathaniel Lewis Sturges and Sarah Bulkley.
- Oct. 18, 1792....Samuel Squire, 3d, and Lucy Squire.
- Nov. 25, 1792....Moses Hubbel of Greenfield and Anna Silliman of Fairfield.
- Dec. 2, 1792....Nathan Lewis of Derby and Jerusha Bartram of Fairfield.
- March 6, 1793....Titus, negro servant to Mr. Peter Burr, and Nance, negro servant to Capt. Ezekiel Hull.
- June 9, 1793....William Pitt Beers, Esq., and Anna Sturges.
- July 29, 1793....Lebbeus Brown and Hannah Godfrey.
- Aug. 12, 1793....Jonathan Sturges, Jr. and Priscilla Lothrop Burr.
- Oct. 7, 1793....Stephen Middlebrook, Jr., of North Stratford and Ellen Gold of Fairfield.
- Nov. 10, 1793....David Sturges and Thankful Osborn.
- Nov. 10, 1793....Gershom Beers of Fairfield and Sarah White of Greenfield.
- Nov. 18, 1793....Seth Silliman, Jr., of Fairfield and Elizabeth Morehouse of Stratfield were married at Stratfield.
- Dec., 1793....Richard Bangs and Elizabeth Bulkley.
- Jan. 30, 1794....Medad Gold of Greenfield and Elizabeth Jackson of Fairfield.
- June 5, 1794....Ebenezer Burr, 4th, and Sarah Dimon.
- Aug., 1794....Jason Gold and Catherine Carson.
- Sept. 11, 1794....Nathan Perry of Greenfield and Ruth Morehouse of Fairfield.
- Oct. 16, 1794....Benjamin Wilson and Martha Perry.
- Oct. 22, 1794....Abraham Willey of Danbury and Mary Penfield of Fairfield.
- Oct. 30, 1794....Samuel Rowland and Sarah Maltby.
- Nov. 27, 1794....Priamus, negro servant to Mr. Moses Jennings, and Caty, negro servant to Mrs. Sarah Sturges.
- Dec. 16, 1794....Hezekiah Osborn and Nancy Perry.
- Jan. 7, 1795....Nathan Guyer and Elizabeth Jennings.
- Feb. 8, 1795....James Wilson and Sarah Wilson.
- May 7, 1795....Ephraim Penfield and Esther Turney.
- June 14, 1795....Nehemiah Phippeny and Johanna Parmiter.
- Nov. 5, 1795....John Gold Allen and Elizabeth Nichols.
- Nov. 22, 1795....Joseph Hayes and Grizzel Burr.
- April 3, 1796....Amos Wilson of Fairfield and Phebe Bangs of Stratfield were married at Stratfield.
- April 21, 1796....Ozias Burr, Jr., of Stratfield and Lois Jennings of Fairfield.
- Aug. 29, 1796....Jesup Wakeman and Esther Dimon.
- May 29, 1796....Francis Botsford and Ruth Nichols, both of Stratfield, were married at Stratfield.
- July 16, 1796....Elijah Turril and Clary Meeker.
- Aug. 16, 1796....Isaac Marquand and Mabel Perry.
- Sept. 22, 1796....Elijah Bibbins and Lucretia Jennings.
- Nov. 6, 1796....Job Bartram and Ruthy Holberton.
- Nov. 11, 1796....Sturges Thorp and Nancy Sturges.
- Dec. 18, 1796....Lewis Goodsell and Debby Jennings.
- Dec. 21, 1796....Stephen Beers and Lydia Hobart.
- Dec. 29, 1796....Jesse Wheeler of Greenfield and Annah Ogden of Fairfield.
- Feb. 5, 1797....John Alvord of Greenfield and Elizabeth Bulkley of Fairfield.
- May 23, 1797....James Johnson, Jr., of Weston and Elizabeth Burr of Fairfield.
- July 13, 1797....Isaac Bulkley and Abigail Turney.
- Nov. 16, 1797....Thomas Bartram and Sarah Burr.
- Feb. 13, 1798....Jonathan Warren of Troy, New York, and Ellen Allen of Fairfield.
- Sept. 2, 1798....Edward Allen Morehouse of Fairfield and Betsey Webb of Greenfield were married at Greenfield.
- Oct. 21, 1798....Selleck Burr of Green's Farms and Abigail Jennings of Fairfield.
- Oct. 21, 1798....John Morehouse and Hannah Gold.
- Nov. 4, 1798....Ethan Sherwood and Abigail Bibbins.
- Jan. 30, 1799....Aaron Hubbel and Betsey Jennings.

- July 7, 1799....Peter Sturges of Greenfield and  
 Clarina Bulkley of Fairfield.  
 July 21, 1799....Philo Ruggles, Esq., of New  
 Milford and Ellen Bulkley of  
 Greenfield were married at  
 Greenfield.  
 Aug. 21, 1799....John Wheeler and Catherine  
 Holberton.  
 Nov. 28, 1799....Abel Ogden and Betsey Sher-  
 wood.  
 Dec. 14, 1799....Andrew Mallery and Sarah Hub-  
 bel.  
 Jan. 2, 1800....Bethuel Ogden of Fairfield and  
 Sarah Nichols of Reading.  
 Jan. 12, 1800....Joseph Nichols of Newton and  
 Sally Hulbert of Greenfield  
 were married at Greenfield  
 March 20, 1800....David Wilson and Betsey Bib-  
 bins.  
 March 23, 1800....Levi Jennings and Hannah Jen-  
 nings.  
 April 13, 1800....William Wheeler and Rhoda  
 Parrot.  
 April 19, 1800....Jonathan Silliman and Lydia  
 Jarvis.  
 July 31, 1800....Joab Squire and Mary Bulkley.  
 July 31, 1800....Wheeler Judson of Fairfield and  
 Catherine Lewis of Stratford  
 were married at Stratford.  
 Oct. 26, 1800....Lockwood Adams and Mary  
 Gray were married at Nor-  
 field.  
 Dec. 18, 1800....Samuel Wakeman and Sally  
 Burr.  
 Jan. 3, 1801....Nathaniel Burr and Betsey Jen-  
 nings.  
 April 16, 1801....Joseph Sturges and Sarah Burr.  
 Aug. 2, 1801....Nathan Thompson Nichols and  
 Hannah McKenzie.  
 Oct. 5, 1801....Stephen Miller of New York and  
 Elizabeth Sturges of Fairfield.  
 Oct. 15, 1801....Gershom Burr and Elizabeth  
 Eliot.  
 Oct. 19, 1801....Stephen Beach of Vermont and  
 Anne Penfield of Trumbull  
 were married at Fairfield.  
 Dec. 31, 1801....Daniel Beers Osborn and Sally  
 Wakeman.  
 March 7, 1802....Gold Morehouse of Fairfield and  
 Betsey Meeker of Greenfield  
 were married at Fairfield.  
 May 16, 1802....Abraham Benson and Esther  
 Jarvis.  
 Aug. 1, 1802....Prince Freeman and Priscilla  
 Jennings.  
 Aug. 27, 1802....Primus, servant to Mr. Moses  
 Jennings, and Mary Jube,  
 free-woman.  
 Sept. 22, 1802....Billy Bibbins and Anna More-  
 house.  
 Jan. 9, 1803....Ebenezer Bartram and Abigail  
 Jennings.  
 Jan. 9, 1803....James Chapman of Green's  
 Farms and Ellen Squire of  
 Fairfield.  
 Jan. 19, 1803....Walter Bradley, Esq., of Green-  
 field and Nancy Abenarthur  
 of New Haven were married  
 at Greenfield.  
 Jan. 23, 1803....Barnabas Bartram and Deborah  
 Squire.  
 June 9, 1803....Peter Bradley and Nancy Mc-  
 Raa.  
 June 12, 1803....Abel Hubbel and Sally Turney.  
 Aug. 9, 1803....Stephen Wheeler and Betsey  
 Knap. Her true name is Eliz-  
 abeth, as appears by the rec-  
 ord of her baptism.  
 Dec. 6, 1803....John Allen of No. Sherman and  
 Elizabeth Maltbie of Fairfield.  
 Dec. 18, 1803....Arthur Cullum of New York and  
 Harriet Sturges of Fairfield.  
 Dec. 18, 1803....Ebenezer Burr, 4th, and Eunice  
 Ogden.  
 Dec. 24, 1803....Ezekiel Webb and Harriet Shef-  
 field.  
 Jan. 15, 1803....Seth Osborn and Eunice Burr.  
 March 18, 1804....Gershom Thomas of Wilton and  
 Polly Lyon of Greenfield were  
 married at Fairfield.  
 March 25, 1804....James Allen of Sherman and  
 Abigail Dimon of Fairfield.  
 April 29, 1804....Gershom Bulkley of Harriston,  
 New York, and Mary Osborn  
 of Fairfield.  
 May 6, 1804....Isaiah Jennings and Hannah  
 Burr.  
 May 6, 1804....Abraham Benson and Grizzel  
 Burr.  
 Sept. 9, 1804....William Pell Smith of New York  
 and Eunice Squire of Fair-  
 field.  
 Oct. 7, 1804....David Penfield and Elizabeth  
 Bulkley.  
 Oct. 7, 1804....Benjamin Marston Watson of  
 Plymouth, Mass., and Lucre-  
 tia Burr Sturges of Fairfield.  
 Nov. 18, 1804....Benjamin Fairchild of Stratford  
 and Eunice Elwood of Fair-  
 field.  
 Dec. 9, 1804....Stephen Barlow of Saugatuck  
 and Abigail Sturges of Fair-  
 field.  
 March 17, 1805....Isaac Bertine of New York and  
 Lydia Putnam of Fairfield.  
 May 12, 1805....Heathcote Muirson and Cynthia  
 Wheeler.  
 June 30, 1805....Prince Freeman and Phillis Os-  
 born.  
 July 20, 1805....John Sniffin of Long Island and  
 Mary Morehouse Green of  
 Fairfield.



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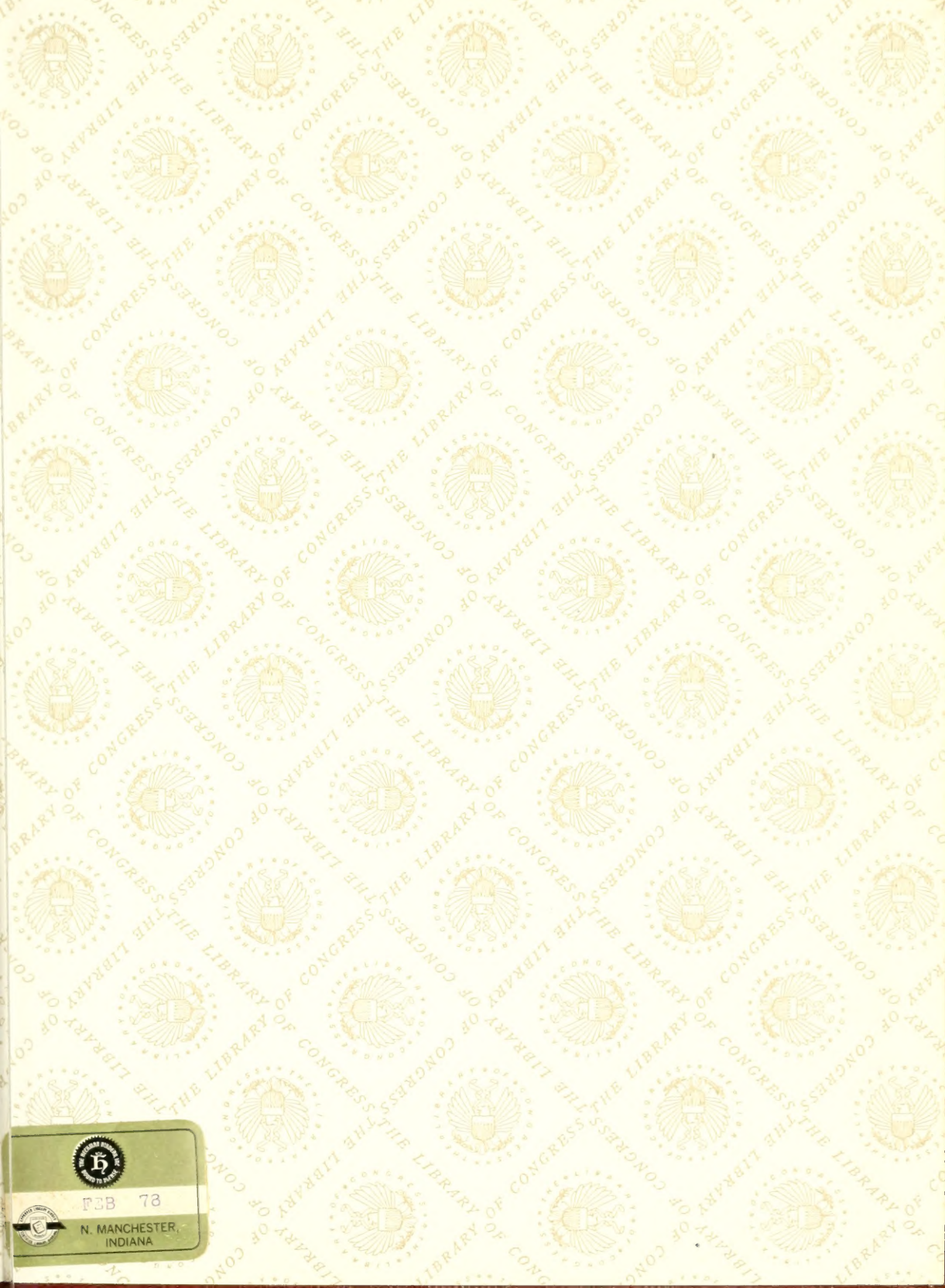
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